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WHY MEN ARE **TOO STUPID** TO FLIRT

Joe Joseph on the unsubtle art of chatting up, P15



LIBBY PURVES

God bless the Christmas deadline PAGE 16



Your guide to Christmas off-the-cuff



HOW AN ATHEIST



Brown attacks critics of reform

Labour 'true defender of welfare state'

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

GORDON BROWN ast night went on the offensive against critics of Labour's welfare shake-up, declaring that the "true defenders of the welfare state are those who are

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prepared to reform it". The Chancellor of the Exchequer told Old Labour opponents fighting to derail the biggest reform in 50 years that the war against poverty in Britain can only be won by the modernisers".

In an interview with The Times, Mr Brown also sought to reassure his party at all levels, including the Cabinet, that the review would be carried out in a sensitive way. It was not, he said, being driven by the need to make cuts but to improve the system by providing more opportunity to work and more security for those who could not do a job. It would not be an indiscriminate slash-and-

burn exercise". He told critics there would be no backing down. Recent revolts, he suggested, confirmed that some people took time to get used to the idea defending the status quo is

not the best way forward". The day after Tony Blair made plain that he was taking overall charge of a process that could make or break his Government, Mr Brown was uncompromising on the need for change, insisted that there was a will for it in the party. and claimed that when the minutes of Cabinet discussions were revealed they would show unanimity for

But after a weekend in

which a letter to him from David Blunkett opposing proposals to alter disability benefits gave the first sign of a serious Cabinet split on the issue, Mr Brown tackled headon the fears of the Left and welfare campaigners that the needy could be hit in the general search for reductions in the EIOO billion a year

social security budget. He said: "The reform of welfare is based on principle. It is not cuts-driven; it is not economy-inspired. It is in-

6 The war against poverty can only be won by

the modernisers 9

spired by the need to have a modern system that meets the needs of people and provides the opportunities to them that

He added: "This is the biggest reform for 50 years. It with proper sensitivity to the needs of those people who are dependent on the welfare state. To say that it is an indiscriminate slash-andburn exercise is completely wrong. This is inspired by the need to restore the welfare state to its original purpose of opportunity and security for all on the basis that the true defenders of the welfare state are those that are prepared to make the reforms that are

Mr Brown said that he had

never flinched from difficult decisions and would not do so now: he recalled that as Shadow Chancellor he had first been criticised for his plan to prevent young people taking benefit if they refused all the options available under the welfare to work scheme but it was now accepted in the party.

The Chancellor denied suggestions that the Prime Minis ter's decision to take overall control of the review was a slight to him. He had been keen on the most comprehen sive review of welfare and did not think it could have been done any other way

He then issued his battle cry for reform in a way that suggested he accepts the view of many politicians and commentators that only a Labour Government with a thumping majority could ever carry out a true reform of the welfare

He said: "The war on poverty, which is what we are fighting, was never won in the past by the old methods. The war on poverty can only be pared to look at how policies have failed in the past and how new approaches are needed to look at the overall use of resources, prepared to generate an anti-poverty strategy that tackles the causes of poverty, which includes unemployment and lack of skills, and prepared to look comprehensively -- not in a piecemeal way — at how we can help Continued on page 2, col 3

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Downing St protest ends in arrests

By TIM JONES

TWELVE severely disabled people protesting against possible cuts in benefits were arrested yesterday after they spattered Downing Street with red paint, handcuffed themselves to the gates and accused Tony Blair of treating them as

The 12 were released after receiving formal warnings.

Some of the demonstrators were handed begging bowls by the Disabled People's Direct Action Network, which organised the protest and claimed the paint symbolised the blood that the Prime Minister was "sucking out" of their "hopes, dreams and dignity".

people who took part in the protest promised that this was just the beginning of a huge protest against benefit cuts. A few of them eased themselves from their wheelchairs and rolled in the paint. Others who handcuffed themselves to the gates vowed that although they had always voted Labour, they would never do so again. Police , who halted traffic in Whitehall for a few minutes, used bolt cutters to remove them. Mr Blair was not at Downing Street during the protest. He was touring a factory in his constituency

of Sedgefield, County Durham. Rachel Hurst, chairwoman of the lobby group Rights Now, said: "It is frightening

Chanting slogans saying Mr Blair that following the weekend leaks. Mr happen. I have people on the telephone to me who are in tears and threatening suicide."

Susanne Bull, 27, a charity worker who has spina bifida, said: "Without my mobility allowance I would be trapped in my house and have to claim all the benefits, costing the Government much

Kevin Donnellon, 35, from Liverpool, a thalidomide victim, said: "I feel the Government is picking on us as soft targets, but we are not going to give up without a huge fight."

Conrad Russell, page 16



Spurs welcome back Klinsmann

Jurgen Klinsmann, who left Tottenham Hotspur in acri-monious circumstances 22 years ago, yesterday returned rom the Italian club Sampdoria on a loan deal. nham are languishing third from bottom of the Premiership, with only five wins from 19 games so far this Page 40

Delia's stake

Delia Smith, the cookery writer, and her husband Michael Wynn Jones, the publisher, have bought the majority shareholding in Norwich City

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Beef farmers urged to quit | Al Fayed nearer to after £85m emergency deal

By Andrew Pierce and Michael Hornsby

THE Government paved the way yesterday for many beef farmers to leave the land in a radical restructuring of the industry as it announced a one-off £85 million emergency

Dr Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, who confirmed that there would be a year-long inquiry into the BSE crisis, emphasised that a drastic reduction in the size of the business was essential and said farmers should prepare for root and branch restructuring.

The minister served notice on beef farmers that the days of heavy government subsidies were over. The new priority was to reduce the size of the industry by luring farmers off the land through measures such as retirement schemes partly funded by the European Union.

He said that last year, £2 billion had been paid to the beef industry and a further £1.4 billion was being spent in the current financial year before the £85 million was taken into account.

These are very large sums indeed. They cannot be maintained indefinitely." he said. Referring to the £85 million, he said: "I must emphasise that these payments are exceptional and one-off." Dr Cunningham said the

long-awaited inquiry would be chaired by Lord Justice Phillips and take a year. It will encompass Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, the human form of BSE, which has cost the lives of more than 20 people. The Tories, who promised to co-operate with the investigation, said it was a gift to other EU states, who did not want the ban on British beef

While the National Farmers' Union welcomed the £85 million as a "lifeline" for hardpressed beef farmers, Dr Cunningham said they had to face a new reality: there was an oversupply of beef throughout Europe and a long term decline in consumption. Substantial restructuring was required. It had to begin

"In the interests of confimers, taxpayers, the environment, and not least the farmers them selves, the just reform the beef ind any so that it have the selves of the selv that it becomes economically and environmentally sustain-able. Our high term aim should be to red be the scale of subsidy to producers."

Ministers were planning early consultations with the farming industry to achieve the reduction. They would explore whether the EU's early retirement scheme and other structural measures could play a part. Dr Cunningham said that

the £85 million, which the Tories dismissed as "Scrooge-like", included £60 million from the EU to offset the effects of sterling revaluations and poor sales. Most of the benefit would go to some 90,000 hill farmers who have been hardest hit. The remain-

British citizenship

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MOHAMED AL FAYED, the nouncement and was confichairman of Harrods, was hopeful last night of achieving his ambition of becoming a British citizen after the Government said his application would be reconsidered. Jack Straw told MPs that

the Government was abandoning its challenge to a Court of Appeal ruling that the Conservative Government had unlawfully rejected citizenship applications by Mr Al Fayed and Ali Fayed, his brother. The Home Secretary told MPs in a written Commons answer that he would now consider the Egyptianborn brothers' requests for naturalisation "on their merits". He also said that in future all applicants for citizenship would be told the reasons for their refusal if they were rejected. In 1996, about 43,000

people were given citizenship and 5,000 were rejected. Mr Al Fayed hopes that he is on the verge of winning his long struggle to get British citizenship. He said that he welcomed Mr Straw's an-

dent that his claim and his brother's would get a fair hearing. "I love this country and I am confident that the Home Secretary will consider our citizenship applications with fairness, Mr Al Fayed said in a statement issued from his Harrods store in Knightsbridge. He added: "I am grateful to him and I am sure many other people will feel the same."

He said that Mr Straw's announcement was important for very many people who had applications for naturalisation rejected but who were not given reasons for the rejection. Home Office sources said that it would be months rather than weeks before Mr Straw reached a decision on the

applications. Mr Al Fayed's anger at his failure to gain citizenship under the Conservatives fuelled his feud with the Tory Party and culminated in the cash-for-questions affair.

Man in the News, page 2

Retired miners face cut in free coal allowance

By PAUL WILKINSON

THOUSANDS of retired miners and their widows face a cut in the amount of free coal they are entitled to receive, breaking a promise made to them at the time of privatisation.

About 200,000 people receive the benefit, worth up to E500 a year, which was negotiated as part of pay settlements many years ago. Working miners receive up to five tonnes, others receive around three tonnes.

The allocation is based on the price of top-quality British coal, but the

Government has said it wants to change that to less expensive coal. much of which is imported from Korea and China. For those who cannot obtain the cheaper coal it will mean less fuel. Peter McNestry, the national secretary of Nacods, the pit deputies union, believes a recalculation could cost pensioners and widows up to £150 a year.

The move is expected to spark a fresh confrontation between miners and the Government when it is discussed by both sides at the Department of Trade and Industry next

month. It could also lead to a court challenge on the legality of breaking the pledge given by Tim Eggar, the minister responsible for the coal industry in the last Government.

The DTI has told miners' leaders that coal entitlements are to be "rebalanced" to keep in line with European law, John Battle, the Energy Minister, said that there was "an urgent need" to have new arrange-

ments in place by April. Mr McNestry said: "This will hit people very hard. Some old people depend on it to get through the winter.

There is a perception that this is free coal. It isn't. Miners gave up pay

increases to get this benefit." He said Mr Eggar, the Conservative Energy Minister, had given a pledge that the Government would safeguard the concessionary fuel entitlements of British Coal.

Pat Carragher, the general secretary of the British Association of Colliery Management, said: "Thus is clearly an attempt to save money despite an agreement with the last Government."

Scargill disqualified, page 6



A victory for gloom over comfort and joy

[T WOULD take (to misquote Dr Johnson) a surgical operation to get tidings of comfort and joy into the understanding of a Member of Parliament. MPs gathered yesterday for their last day's proceedings before Christmas, to question the Home Secretary. Jack Straw, and to remind each other, and Britain, what a wicked old world this is.

The closest anyone came to seasonal joility was when Bob Laxton (Lab. Derby N) presented Madam Speaker with a single, rather mankylooking. Christmas stocking. It was empty. Apparently it had come from his constituents. David and Mary. in Derby. Mr Laxton held up this questionable offering. dangling limply from one her best to fix her features into that "just what I always wanted" expression.

Invited to join this first gesture of new Labour's Giving Age, the pleasantly understated junior minister Alun Michael looked doubtful and glanced nervously at Miss Boothroyd. "As there is only one stocking. Madam Speaker, and as it is empty. I assume it is to be filled by Father Christmas, and not by Madam Speaker's leg . . ." He trailed off.

Miss Boothroyd looked tolerant, but faintly unamused. It is really not done to mention Madam Speaker's legs, either of them, in the chamber. The only part of Madam Speaker we may



his own official portfolio title

- "deregulation, drugs" -

missed out the comma, and

thought he was supposed to

deregulate drugs. He said

there was a case for longer

hours for pubs but it must be

balanced by the needs of

Sir Teddy, of course, is an

anti-European of the loam-

flecked-lips tendency. Gener-

ous licensing hours are a

continental phenomenon.

Ergo (or, as Sir Teddy would

not have it, donc) . . . well. you

can guess. He lashed out at

lax opening hours. There was

neighbours.

mention with impunity is her eye, which members strive assiduously to catch.

The House moved to Ouestion 3, which seemed to promise more. Sir Teddy Taylor (C. Rochford and Southend E) wanted to know about licensing hours.

Assuming that Sir Teddy's easonal wish was to add to the national stock of jollity, George Howarth, a Home Office junior minister, answered as though anticipating a request for opening hours to be relaxed. Mr Howarth may have misread "huge concern" that they might be extended. Why didn't ministers concentrate on advertising the dangers of alcohol"? Howarth scuttled for cover and agreed.

Ian Cawsey (Lab. Brigg & Goole) wanted to ask about "staggering". To giggles, he explained he meant staggering in the temporaneous sense: staggering hours, for instance, of nightclubs. We looked up at Mr Cawsey, momentarily hopeful that this might be an MP with a sense of fun. But no. "I must point out," he told the chair, "that I have no personal interest in the nightclubs industry. Those days are long gone."

Our last hope of merriment died when Peter Brooke (C. Cities of London & Westmin-

about relaxed drinking hours in Central London, which he said would spoil the metropolis for residents.

MPs went on to discuss crime, murder, road accidents, corruption, electronic tagging and identity cards. As this sketch departed the joyless some for its own Christmas break, the House was awaiting the arrival of a statement on mad cow disease, held up by computer failure. Our much-vaunted Year of Change, which had begun with statements from ministers on the continuing problems of BSE, ended in the same way. Plus ça change, if Sir Teddy will

NEWS IN BRIEF

Former policewoman sues over child care

A former policewoman is sueing Tayside Police for compensation, claiming she was forced to quit her job because senior officers refused to acknowledge her responsibilities as a mother. Shirley Anderson, 31, alleges that male police officers do not face the same problems as their female counterparts because they are not recognised as the main child-carer in the family. She told an industrial tribunal in Dundee that her problems started last December when she disobeyed an order which would have meant there was no one to look after her year-old daughter.

Sun-seekers fly out

Holidaymakers in search of December sunshine flew out yesterday, as a rainy Christmas was forecast and the bookmakers William Hill lengthened the odds of a white Christmas to 10-1. Gatwick reported its busiest day of the winter. Over the next two weeks some 900,000 people are expected to take winter holidays, the two most popular destinations being Tenerife and the Costa del Sol in the

Burglars' lonely victim

An 80-year-old widower who died after a burglary at his home may have been unconcious for up to five days on his kitchen floor before being discovered by a neighbour last Saturday. Stephen Clayton, who lived alone on the Bransholme council estate in Hull, suffered a stroke which police believe may have been caused by the shock of either discovering the break-in or possibly confronting the burglars in his house.

Lockerbie trial ruling

Libya was under pressure last night to guarantee the appearance in court of two men accused of the Lockerbie bombing after a United Nations report concluded that they would receive a fair trial under Scottish law. The Crown Office in Edinburgh said: "Libya should now stop prevaricating and secure the appearance of the accused for trial." Monday was the ninth anniversary of the date on which 270 people died when Pan Am Flight 103 exploded.

Doubts of the Kirk

A survey by The Scotsman conducted last week found that 35 per cent of 150 Church of Scotland ministers questioned doubted the immaculate conception and virgin birth. All the ministers answered "Yes" when asked whether they believed Jesus was God come to earth. But a third answered "No" or "Don't know" to questions on whether God's Holy Spirit was responsible for the conception and whether Mary was a virgin when Jesus was born.

Water company praised

A water authority at the centre of a Government inquiry into how 54,000 people in the north of Glasgow were left without clean water for days, has been shortlisted for a quality award. West of Scotland Water was named as one of 19 organisations to be considered for a Convention of Scottish Local Authorities' award. The Labour MP for Clydebank. Tony Worthington, said: "Surely they can have no chance in winning any award after their performance".

Hooligans lose appeal

A French appeal court confirmed sentences of eight against three British football fans convicted of attacking a man in a Strasbourg street after the Strasbourg-Liverpool match that Liverpool lost 3-0. Matthew Godden, 21, a shopassistant, James Kerr, a sports shop manager, and Paul Roach, a roofer, have been in prison since October 22, the day after the match.

Season of inefficiency

Heavy drinking before Christmas is taking its toll on the economy, according to a report. Almost two thirds of the 140 firms surveyed by the London Chamber of Commerce reported productivity losses because employees were overindulging. Illness, lack of concentration and impaired powers of judgment were all cited as factors undermining performance, said Simon Sperryn, the chamber's chief

Neil Kinnock

In a leading article on party funding (November 16) we referred to Neil Kinnock, as Leader of the Opposition, finding "himself in Robert Maxwell's debt to his discomfort". It was not meant to suggest that either Mr Kinnock or his private office, as opposed to the Labour Party, received any financial donations from Mr Maxwell, and we regret any misunderstanding.

Hague on video to break with the past

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE has delivered his Christmas broadcast to the Tory faithful with a promise of the biggest shakeup of the party in more than

The Tory leader, who was filmed standing next to a Christmas tree at Conservarive Central Office, talked for three-and-a-half minutes without a script to announce the largest public consultation exercise the party has undertaken. The film, complete with a copy of his only party political broadcast since he became Tory leader, has been sent to every Tory association. It has been dubbed William's Christmas Cracker at Conservative Central Office.

The three-month Listening to Britain campaign, which has echoes of a previous Labour exercise, will be conducted in town halls, community centres, and village halls. It will be led by mem-bers of the Shadow Cabinet. In his broadcast Mr Hague promises that the Tories will listen and not lecture, and out right what people thought was wrong with the party.

In a break with the traditional written Christmas message of Tory leaders Mr Hague recorded his video address shortly before his wedding. In it he said: "In the new year we are going to launch Listening to Britain; the biggest exercise we have ever mounted in making sure that our MPs are listening to, and in touch with, the people

of this country. The exercise is in response to the admission by the Tory leadership that the party had become woefully out of touch with ordinary voters at the last election. They will consult with doctors, nurses, teachers and other organisations which felt alienated after 18 years of Tory rule. "We understand

why we lost. People thought we had become arrogant, that we had become sleazy, that we did not listen, and that we were out of touch. So we have to put those things right," Mr Hague added.

He said that in 1998 they would complete the biggest reorganisation of the party since Benjamin Disraeli. "We are going to make it a much more attractive proposition to join the Conservative Party. We are going to involve the members much more in our party. We are going to give them a vote in the affairs of our party," he said.
The Labour leadership

under Neil Kinnock staged the 'Labour Listens" campaign after the Thatcher landslide election victory in 1987. The Tories deny that they have copied Labour.

They maintained that they are anxious to consult the public widely as Peter Lilley, the Shadow chancellor, begins the task of reviewing every policy pledge and commit ment. It is a move which also has echoes of Tony Blair who dumped policies which he feared could alienate voters in Middle England.

The consultation will involve pressure groups and community organisations. We will talk to party activists as well. But we are determined to reach out," said a Tory

☐ Dame Shirley Porter, the former leader of Westminster City Council, should be stripped of her title, the Commons was told yesterday as Tories were urged to condemn her for her part in the "homes for votes" affair. No Conservatives rose at question time either to condemn or defend the Tesco heiress who was confirmed by the High Court on Friday of being guilty of "wilful misconduct"



Gordon Brown yesterday: "The welfare state in recent years has absorbed more cash but not relieved poverty"

Brown justifies reforms

Continued from page I those who need it most." He added:.

There will be no backing down from the need to modernise our welfare state. We will not be diverted from the need to make the reforms that are necessary. For 20 years inequalities and poverty have worsened in our society while social

security resources grew." The test of Labour's reforms would be whether there was more opportunity and less poverty in the years to come. But the review, he said, started not from some cuts-driven agenda but from the hard truths" of the failure of the welfare state in recent years as it had absorbed more

money but not relieved poverty. His general message was unbending. For millions of people the welfare state was failing: 3.5 million households containing people of working age had no one earning a wage: three million children were being brought up in workless households. It was hardly surprising that child poverty had risen dramatically. The welfare state is failing millions of people who depend upon it and at the same time millions who

contribute towards it." Labour would not realise the 1945 Beveridge principles - opportunity and security for all - without making major reforms that tackled the causes of poverty.

It was pressing ahead with the welfareto-work programme to enable those who could work to have work "We are moving ahead with reforms that will make work pay. We will not be diverted from our determination to ensure that we have a better system to reward work through the tax and benefit system so that we move from a society where large numbers to people believe they are better off out of work, even though they are in poverty, a system where people are better off work". But the Government was allo determined that all those who were need an incapable of work were proper

provided for. Mr Brown said that he had insisted that all areas of public expenditure were examined to ensure that where public resources were provided they went to those who needed them most. Asked whether the process had not got

off to a dreadful start because of the lone parent defeat and reports of Cabinet divisions, Mr Brown said: "It will take some people time to get used to the idea that defending the status quo is not the best way forward." Did he believe there was a will in the party and the Cabinet for change after the Government's recent difficulties? "Indeed I do," he replied. People are coming to understand that the dividing line between doing nothing and betrayal is outdated."

Mr Brown tried to play down the Blunkett letter. "David has made absolutely clear he is 100 per cent behind the comprehensive review led by Tony Blair."

Letters, page 17

SAFETY NOTICE

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Owners of G9 or G9D+ mobile phones can identify if they have a Potrans rapid battery charger by looking at the silver label (example shown, right) and model number details which state MRD-ADM-0004-05 (made in Taiwan or China).

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Beef farm cuts

Continued from page I ing £25 million. 25 per cent funded by the EU, would come in the form of increased hill livestock compensatory allowances for 1998. Farmers estimate the package is worth an average of £800 a year to an average lowland suckler cov producer and £1,400 to a hill farmer with 38 cows.

Dr Cunningham said that the inquiry into the "national human tragedy" of BSE was essential. BSE had literally been a disaster". He said the Government was not interested in using the inquiry as a political point-scoring

Lord Justice Phillips and his team, the make-up of which will be announced in the next few days, will be asked to report on the effectiveness of the Government's response and to report by the end of December next year.

Lord Callaghan of Cardiff. the last Labour prime minister. Baroness Thatcher and John Major may be called to give evidence. Tony Blair has written to William Hague, Lord Callaghan. Lady Thatcher and John Major to ask them to release any necessary papers. Ministers would answer to the House after the

inquiry's report. The Tories attacked the announcements, which Michael Jack, the shadow agriculture spokesman, said was a victory for the Treasury, "You

have faired Birsh agricul-ture he told r Cunning-

Farmers last night promised their full support for the BSE inquiry, despite misgivings about the wisdom of holding it now. They said the £85 million package would bring "much-needed relief".

But they said the assistance fell far short of what was needed, and are to hold a rally London in mid-January. They will press the Government for the full 1980 million to which they say they are entitled as compensation for the strong pound.

Sir David Naish, the president of the National Farmers' Union, said the inquiry would have his "full co-operation". but voiced concern that it might offer the European Union a further excuse to postpone lifting the ban on British beef. The progress already made in the European arena must not be delayed."

He said the NFU would welcome the opportunity to discuss a restructuring of the beef industry, and an early retirement scheme for farmers, but warned Dr Cunningham that current EU schemes were insufficiently funded. Farmers in the South West, one of the regions worst hit by the beef crisis, dismissed the aid package as inadequate and predicted more farmers'

Would-be Briton who is still cold-shouldered By Richard Ford MAN IN

HOME CORRESPONDENT

HE OWNS Harrods, the Ritz in Paris, the Duke of Windsor's former home in Paris and through his sponsorship of the Royal Windsor Horse Show has contact with the

But despite Mohamed Al Fayed's avid courtship of the Establishment, he looked like being forever the outsider.

But Jack Straw's announcement that he is to reconsider citizenship applications of Mr Al Fayed and his brother Ali provides hope that they may both win their struggle to be British.

It provides some solace for Mr Al Fayed at the end of four traumatic months after the deaths of his son, Dodi and Diana, Princess of Wales,

His reaction in the aftermath of that tragedy provides an example of why he is viewed with such suspicion and hostility. On the eve of the Princess's funeral it was disclosed that he had passed her last words to a member of her family and that he had requested that a silver plaque inscribed with a poem written for the Princess be placed in

her coffin. Controversy has surround-

THE NEWS



Al Fayed: the outsider

ed Mr Al Fayed, 64, ever since his purchase of Harrods in 1985. Tiny Rowland had sold his stake in House of Fraser, then owners of Harrods, wrongly assuming the Fayed's did not possess the financial resources to bid for the whole

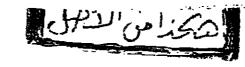
Mr Rowland's case was that Mohamed Al Fayed had made up his past and lied about his wealth. Instead of being the son of a distinguished Egyptian family, he was the son of a the Sultan of Brunei's money to purchase the House of

In 1987, the Department of ... Trade and Industry ordered an inquiry into his acquisition of the House of Fraser. Three years later the DTI report was published. It accused the brothers of lying to the City. press. DTI and their own advisers about their origins. their wealth, their business interests and their resources.

Mr Al Fayed has lived in this country for 30 years, pays E3 million taxes a year. nurtures and restores British institutions, has donated huge amounts of cash to charities that care for children, courted MPs in Parliament and yet remains a foreigner in the land he professes to love.

He then sought revenge and won in spectacular fashion in the cash for questions affair. His allegations that he paid thousands of pounds stuffed in plain brown envelopes to Fory MPs to ask questions on his behalf led to the downfall of former ministers Neil Hamilton and Tim Smith.

Even if Mr Al Fayed eventually wins his much sought British citizenship, it is unlike ly that he will ever be accepted by the Establishment.



protests in the New Year.

Teenage bully says 'I still love my parents'

parents took court action to ban him from the family home after he threatened them was preparing to spend Christmas alone in a homeless shelter last night.

Robert Foraker, 19, is forbidden by a court order from contacting his mother and father who called in police after he threatened to attack them last month. After he was released from custody yesterday he said: "I love them both very much, but I just can't live with them."

He had just sentenced to six months' probation by magis-trates at Mildenhall, Suffolk, for causing criminal damage and threatening violence against his father. After the hearing he stood on a roundabout two miles from his parents house, hitching a lift to Bury St Edmunds where he plans to spend Christmas.

The outburst last month in which Foraker smashed a window, a lavatory and a mobile phone was the last straw for his parents Robert and Margaret. At an earlier hearing magistrates were told how Foraker's violent outbursts against his parents had escalated out of control. He

A VIOLENT teenager whose and later appeared before magistrates on eight charges of harassment and one of criminal damage to property worth more than £300.

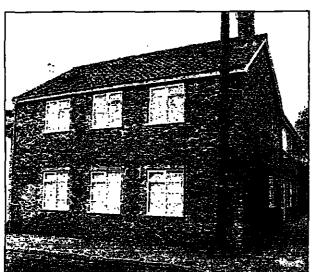
The court heard how Foraker had constantly bullied and threatened his parents, with two incidents in October and and five more in November. He was also charged with breaching a court order relat-ing to an earlier assault on his

In June this year he was sentenced to two years' probation for common assault. Two months later, in August, he was given one day's detention for theft and failing to answer bail, the court heard.

After the hearing Foraker. an only child, admitted he had behaved badly, claiming that he had become "so frustrated" when living at home. His father, an American who works as an administrative officer at Mildenhall air base, said after his son's conviction earlier this month that he had no option but to call the police.

"What he has done is wrong, but I don't want him to go to prison any more than I would anyone else's son," he

Foraker, who says he has was arrested on November 12 been at odds with his parents



The family home Robert Foraker is banned from had become "a nightmare."

since he first began taking drugs at the age of 11 is not hopeful of an early reconcilia-tion. "My parents are good people and they are good to me. I love them both very much, mum and dad, but I just can't live with them," he Mr and Mrs Foraker live in

ه کذابن رالاِصِل

the village of Tuddenham-St-Mary which sits in between the cluster of RAF bases where they both work. According to their son, they met in the 1960s when Mr Foraker, now a retired master sergeant in the US Air Force, was stationed in Britain. The family have lived in England since moving from America when their son was about four years old. They now live in a smart flintexterior cottage with a sizable back garden.

After his release yesterday the slim teenager, who spent more than five weeks in Norwich jail on remand, could not say exactly how, why or when his relationship with his par-ents had broken down.

"I suppose I've been in trouble ever since I started taking drugs when I was II. But I don't do any of that

Foraker, who is well spoken and occasionally apologises unnecessarily for his man-ners, identified a turning point after taking an overdose 212 years ago and ending up in hospital. "Things have never been the same since. I have just a different attitude to everything," he said. Since then Foraker said he had fought endlessly with his parents. The five weeks he spent in prison were, he said, terrible".

During the brief hearing yesterday, George Peacock, his solicitor, said both sides had cause to regret the current impasse. "His parents are concerned for his wellbeing and his future and want him to get some help."

Mr Foraker, who was not incourt yesterday, said the whole episode with his son



Robert Foraker leaves court yesterday after being sentenced to further probation ...

Bomber adds real hazard to golfers' 14th green

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE par-four 14th at Skipton Golf Club has more hazards than most. Normally, bun-kers and the Ellerbeck stream close to the green on the 343-yard hole are the only obstacles members have to face, but recently players have had to face the prospect of an unknown bomber cratering the green.

In the past year the 14th has been damaged more than ten times with a device similar to warning detonators used on the railway. Each blast leaves a deep divot, which needs careful refilling, seeding and rolling.

Gary Potter, the course

manager at the 103-year-old North Yorkshire club, said: Whether it's an ex-member who has been dismissed or someone who has been refused membership. I don't know. Whatever they use, it blows a hole about six inches deep into our green and there is always grass everywhere. If something is not done, we're worried that the situation could get worse with more greens being targeted.

We always find traces of a detonator-type device left ly-ing around. along with tapers. It is really baffling. If the situation continues then the dub will be looking into the possibility of installing

"The first incident was in May and then there were two or three in June and another three in July and just one in August. Then we had nothing until the other week. We went out on to the 14th and there was the big hole.

We wondered if it was a disgruntled employee or someone fed up with getting high scores on the 14th, but we think it's more likely to be young lads."

Inspector Chris Chelton of Skipton police admitted they were baffled. Police agree youngsters are probably responsible, but they accept the bomber could be someone with a gradge.

The incident does have a silver lining, however. Mr Potter said: "It has cured the mole problem down there. They must be terrified.



Helen Proffit

Murder fears grow after fire suicide

By SIMON DE BRUNELLES

FEARS are growing for a young mother whose boy-friend blew himself up in an apparent suicide.

Helen Proffit, 29, a social worker, disappeared a week ago, after going to a Christmas dance with Mark Coldrick whose body was found dead beside his burntout car in a quarry two days later. When police went to his home in Newport, Gwent, they found the house empty and the couple's bedroom heavily blood-stained.

A search has failed to find any trace of Mrs Proffit, a divorced mother of two who was a popular youth worker in Newport Police divers are searching a pool at Ifion Quarry, near Caldicot, where Mr Coldrick killed himself

with a petrol bomb. Detectives fear Mrs Proffit might have died in a violent row after they returned home last Tuesday night. They believe Mr Coldrick, 30. an aircraft engineer, might have disposed of her body at the quarry before returning to the same spot to take his own life. Mr Coldrick left his wife, also called Helen, and their two-year-old son to move in with his lover ten weeks ago. Neighbours say the pair had a volatile relationship.

Detective Superintendent Des James said: There was a massive amount of blood in the rear bedroom, on the walls and on the furniture, which suggests that someone was violently injured. If any of their friends or relatives know anything we want them to come lorward."

Dismissed university chief to sue

By PAUL WILKINSON

A FORMER university principal who resigned after a number of his academic qualifications were discovered to be false yesterday announced that he is to sue for unfair

The Rev Dr Duane Wade-Hampton Arnold, who re-signed last January from St Chad's College in Durham after discrepancies were disclosed in his published list of academic qualifications, is going to an industrial tribunal over his belief that he was forced out by a whispering campaign. His wife, Janet, who was employed as the university's director of development, has also lodged a claim with the tribunal.

However, the college, an independent foundation within the university, controlled by the Church of England, has filed a counter-claim, demand-ing the return of money allegedly spent without authority by Dr Arnold during his brief tenure of the principal's post.

Britani who

Dr Arnold, 44, became in-stantly controversial on his appointment in 1994 to the post when a number of senior

Let paralysed bowler settle here, says MP

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

AN MP is backing the attempt of Winston Davis, the former West Indies cricketer, to be readmitted to Britain after he became paralysed from the neck down when he fell from a mango tree.

David Lock, the Labour MP for Wyre Forest, is asking the Government to waive rules which could prevent Mr Davis, 39, who played professional cricket here for 15 years, from living in Bewdley, near Worcester, with his British wife. Patricia, 38, and their five-year-old daughter, Jessica. Mr Davis, who represented Glamorgan and Northamptonshire for nine seasons and played professional league cricket, has applied for entry at the British High

Commission in New York. This would usually be refused because Mr Davis would depend on support from the NHS. Since the accident on November 1, Davis has been in hospital, in St Vincent and then in Miami, where his medical bills are nearly £400,000.

The former fast-bowler, who played in 15 Tests and 35 one-day internationals in the

all-conquering West Indies teams of the 1980s, fell from the tree when he was carrying out voluntary land-clearing work on a site where a church is being built in Villa, the village in St Vincent where he was born. Mr Davis had climbed into the tree to saw off

struck by a falling branch. He had been planning to leave his with a shipping company next spring, so that he

some branches when he was



Winston Davis and

could live in Britain with his wife, who is a bank clerk. Mr Lock said: "Winston is a quadraplegic and it raises difficult policy decisions because he is somebody who, in the short term, will make demands on the NHS. But I am sure that, in the long term, he will be a net contributor to UK society.

providing great entertainment and paying tax and national insurance. If he is not allowed treatment here, he will not get it anywhere and the family will never be together. Such treatment does not exist in the Caribbean, and it's unbelievably expensive in America." His wife said: "Doctors have

"Winston spent 15 years

told me it's the type of injury suffered by Christopher Reeve [the actor who played Super-man]. The last couple of weeks his spirits have gone a little. But he is a positive person. On his good days Winston says 'I'm going to walk out of this hospital; this is the spirit I want him to keep."

She hopes that he will be

able to resume his career as a cricket commentator.

Cricket, page 37

The state of the s

OED fights the negaholics

Philip Delves Broughton on words that may not pass the test of time

THE English language is under siege. At its gates are marketing men brandishing new words and phrases including "adultescent", "Duffragette", "uegaholie" and "virtual desking".

Fortunately, the compilers of the Oxford English Dictionary, who have catalogued the year's new words and phrases, reckon that few of them will stand the test of time.

As long as they are around, however, it may be worth knowing that an "adultescent" is someone between 35 and 45 addicted to youth culture, a "fluffragette" is a woman with prefeminist role models, and a "negaholie" someone with a face like a week of rain and an attitude to match. "Virtual desking" describes those who use the Internet to work from home. A "shruggist" is someone who looks

at a computer and thinks "life's too short", rather like an "Internot". The computer-addicted teenager is deemed to be a "screenager". The Labour Party has much to

answer for. The terms "on message" and "off message", to describe whether or not someone is tocing the party line, were popularised during the election. as was the word "prebuttal", denying an accusation before it is even made, though someone clearly forgot to fill in Geoffrey Robinson on its use.

Labour is also guilty of the politicisation of the words "new", as in new Labour, new Britain", and "people's", as in the "people's Princess", and a "people's banquet" on the Queen's birthday.

Among the other new phrases of 1997, to "Gordon Brown" is to wear a lounge suit when more formal attire is requested, "Economy Class Syndrome" is the development of a blood clot on the back of the thigh from spending too much time in cheap aeroplane seats, and the "Sandwich Generation" are those who find themselves looking after ageing relatives and young children at the same time. Michael Proffitt, of the OED. says:

"We look to see which ones have endured the test of time and most do not. They have to show evidence of passing into the language more permanently. Many of them are short-

term marketing expressions." It would be a depressing day if scholars a hundred years on opened the dictionary, and between "tele-transport" and "teletype" found the word "Teletubby".

computer delays speech

By ANDREW PIERCE

THE long-awaited state-ment on BSE was delayed embarrassingly because of a computer failure in the private office of Dr Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister.

The Speaker Betty Boothroyd, suspended the sitting for 15 minutes because of the breakdown. It was thought to be the first time in parliamentary history that such an important statement was delayed because of a technical hitch.

By convention the Opposition front bench is given 15 minutes to study the text of an important statement with the exception of the Budget. But the only copy of the statement was contained in the Windows computer system in Dr Cunningham's office which collapsed at 3pm. making it impossible to comply with the usual practice.

Glitch in Hill farmer in front line of the beef crisis

HILL farmers are on the front line of the crisis in the beef industry and large tracts of the most beautiful upland regions of Britain would cease to be farmed if they were exposed to the full rigours of the marketplace.

Some 71,000 farmers in the hills, almost entirely reliant on the rearing of cattle and sheep. depend largely for their survival on subsidies provided by the Government and the European Union which Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, said yesterday must eventually be scaled down.

Richard Barter, who keeps 116 Hereford-cross beef cows and 300 ewes on 297 acres near Bovey Tracey on the edge of Dartmoor, is a fairly typical victim of the Government's

In his early forties, he runs the farm with his wife. Jane. who also has to look after their three young boys, aged five, eight and ten. When their last farm hand left in October. 1996, they decided not to replace him. Mr Barter said: The one-off aid Dr CunningA whole British way of life is under threat as new subsidy cuts and the

strong pound spell the end of the hill men, reports Michael Hornsby

ham has announced will bring welcome short-term relief. We reckon it will mean an extra payment of £47 per cow, which will certainly ease the cash flow. But our long-term problems remain."

Mr Barter reckons his farm

generated an income of about £15,000 last year, but this year that could fall to between £7,000 and £8,000, in line with a national decline in farm incomes of up to 47 per cent forecast by the Ministry of Agriculture. "My accountant has already told us that we will not have to pay any income tax this year because our earnings will be too low." he said. "There are lots worse off than me. At least I do not have an overdraft." He and

his wife specialise in rearing steers to the age of about 20 months and then selling them on to other farmers. They sold their most recent batch of 10 steers four weeks ago, accepting a price that was E200 a

Mr Barter's problem. like many farming in what the bureaucrats call "less fa-voured areas", is that up to half his income, even in a good year. comes from subsidy rather than the price his produce fetches. "If the subsidy went, there is

head lower than similar ani-

mals fetched a year ago.

no way we could survive, at least as full-time farmers. At best I might be able to hang on by taking a job outside farming and running the farm part-time." He and others like him are kept afloat by a whole range of payments.

There are suckler cow premiums (paid per cow), beef special premiums (paid on male calves), sheep annual premiums (paid per ewe) and hill livestock compensatory amounts, a special top-up available only to those in the hills. The strong pound not only makes making imported beef and lamb cheaper and more competitive, forcing

down local prices.
It also, crucially, reduces the sterling value of EU subsidies, which are fixed in ecus, and have to be converted into national money

Over the past two years, because of the strong pound. Mr Barter has seen the value of the suckler cow premium drop from £124 to about £114. although this will now be increased by the special oneoff aid to about £100. The beef special premium has come down from £93 to about £84, and the sheep annual premium has nearly halved, from just over £21 in 1995 to £11.50.



Hill farmer Richard Barter, who says he may be forced to take an outside job

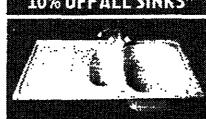


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Moderniser will bring a sure touch

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

WHATEVER the outcome of the inquiry into BSE announced yesterday by the Government, Lord Justice Phillips is likely to handle it with the same definess of touch that won him plaudits for his handling of the Maxwell trial.

Mr Justice Phillips - by then nicknamed the Rolls-Royce" judge — was promoted mid-way through the trial to the Court of Appeal.

Likeable and witty. Nicholas Phillips is a moderniser. He introduced a series of innovations to make proceedings in the Maxwell trial as manageable and comprehensible to jurors as possible. Despite the furore over the acquittals of the brothers, the judge was widely held to have created a blueprint for the way to run such trials in future. Richard Lissack, QC, one of the leading prosecuting coun-sel, said at the time: "He has been the single greatest influ-ence on the trial. His conduct has been faultless." Mr Lissack singled out the judge's temperament, his patience and attention to detail" coupled with his fairness to everyone: counsel, defendants, witnesses, the jury, the press".

Lord Justice Phillips. who drew praise also for his handling of the Barlow Clowes trial in 1991, has long a "hands-on" style of judge who takes as grip of the proceedings - a role judges will be expected to adopt when the civil justice reforms proposed by Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, are implemented. The judge broke new ground by introducing a new court day of 9.30am to 1.30pm, with afternoons reserved for legal argument. Jurors did not have to concentrate all day and were saved from having to keep. going in and out of court while counsel discussed legal points in their absence.

He also provided the jury with a summary of his summing-up, and - as a new rechnology buff - ensured full use of the computer system in court. The defendants sai, American style, alongside

their lawyers.

He attended Bryanston School and King's College. Cambridge, before national service in the Royal Navy Once called to the Bar, in 1962. he built up a shipping and admiralty practice, taking silk in 1978. He became a judge in 1987.



Lord Justice Phillips: likeable and witty

BSE IN BRITAIN

■ 1985 — April: Vet called to a farm in Kent to examine cow behaving oddly. Later recognised as probably first case of BSE.

1986 — Nov. Government scientists make first official diagnosis of BSE.

1987 — June: Ministers told about existence of BSE.

Experiments to test transmissibility of disease to mice are started. Oct. Veterinary Record reports appearance of BSE in four cartle herds, the first public reference to the disease. Dec Epidemiologists say cattle feed containing remains of sheep infected with scrapie most likely cause of BSE.

■ 1988 — April: Working party set up under Professor Sir Richard Southwood of Oxford University to report to Government on BSE implications. July: Ban on feeding cattle or sheep with meat-and-bone meal derived from the same animals. Aug: Government orders slaughter and destruction of all cattle showing symptoms of BSE. Farmers compensated at 50 per cent of market value (later raised to 100 per cent).

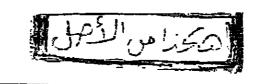
■ 1989 — Feb: Southwood report published. Says BSE risk to humans "remote" but cannot be ruled out. Estimates eventual number size of cattle deaths at between 17,000 and 25,000. Dec Ban on consumption of brain, spinal cord and other specified offals introduced.

■ 1990 — Jan: Offal ban extended to Scotland.
■ 1991 — Mar: European Commission bans exports to the Continent of British cattle over six months old. April: European Commission bans export from Britain of specified offals. May: First case of spongiform encephalopathy reported in a car. Pet food made from BSE-infected offal later confirmed as cause. Sept: Specified offals banned from all animal feed.

■ 1992: Peak year for BSE in cattle, with 36.682 confirmed cases. 1993 — July: Total cattle deaths from BSE reach 100,000. ■ 1994 — Nov: Thymus and intestines added to list of specified offals. All mammalian protein banned from cattle and sheep

■ 1995: First three humans deaths from new-variant CID. ■ 1996 — March: Government announces that "most likely explanation" for new-variant CJD was "exposure to BSE before the offal ban in 1989". Beef prices plummer. EU bans all British beef exports, a trade worth £520 million a year. Number of deaths from new-variant CJD reach 13 by end of year. July-Government announces stricter controls on slaughter of sheep: after scientists report "theoretical risk" that BSE might have passed to sheep and be disguised as scrapie.

1997 — May: Incoming Labour Government says it hopes to ease beef export ban by less confrontational approach with rest of EU. Ban still in place at end of year. Dec. Jack Cunningham, Agriculture Minister, bans beef on the bone after scientists find infectivity in nervous tissue in spinal columns of BSE-infected cattle and possibly also in bone marrow,





oderniser ill bring

Girls complain after teachers go to strip show

By David Charter, Education correspondent

boarding school mistresses to see a male strip show has , haken the Victorian foundaons of one of the country's leading girls' schools.

Some of the girls at £12,000a year Godolphin School in Salisbury have complained after hearing that a dozen staff had gone to see the Chippen-

One popul at the Z/O-year-old school, whose old girls include the novelist Jilly Cooper said: You can imagine the reaction if this was a boys' school where housemasters went to a strip show. The parents won't like this at all. nor do the girls."

vever, the old girls contacted by The Times did not appear too shocked. Delphine Duder, an 80-year-old com-mittee member of the Old-Godolphian Association, who attended the school from 1929anished the school from 1929-35, said it was quite wrong for girls to pry into staff affairs. She said: "We were all in awe of the staff, naturally, in those days one was. I still think that what they do has nothing to do with the girls."

Jacqui Lang, president of



A Chippendale: "all in the best possible taste"

A CHRISTMAS outing by said the teachers were perfectly entitled to their celebrationafter the end of term. She said: Everybody's been to see The Full Monty, haven't they? I would have thought it was pretty harmless stuff and it is just supposed to be a laugh. I don't think children should be encouraged to contact the media for this kind of thing. If the teachers had left the girls it

would be a different matter, but once term has finished I think it is up to staff how they spend their leisure time." Godolphin prides itself on an exemplary academic reput-ation and came top of the GCSE table in Wiltshire this year. The 430-pupil school motto Franc Ha Leal Eto Ge (Frankness and Loyalty Be

Yours) — was founded in 1726 and moved to its present Victorian and modern buildings in 1891. It is also wellregarded for the strength of its theatrical productions and re cently opened a purpose-built performing arts centre. Judy Nathan, the school's

spokeswoman, dismissed complaints about the teachers' behaviour as "mischief-making". She said the outing was during the school holidays last Thursday and did not involve any of the pupils. There would be no disciplinary action against any of those involved. Mrs Nathan added:

"Twelve female members of staff attended the performance-It is a perfectly harmless show for anyone to go and see. It was a perfectly respectable evening. It took place during the holidays and in their own time."

Carl Leighton-Pope, who runs the Chippendales, said the show was aimed at all women and sometimes three generations, grandmother, mother and daughter, would be in the audience. The 20strong troupe of singers and dancers who make up the



Against the odds: Helen Beard with her husband David and mother Sylvia, and children Harry and Emily

A COMPANY THAT SURPASSES

THE LIMITS OF SPEED HAD TO

HI-SPEED COMPANY

Family whose numbers came up

By Paul Whittaker

A FAMILY has beaten odds of a million to one with a sequence of birthdays. The birth of Emily on the 12th day of the 12th month at 12 minutes past 12 noon has completed a string of ex-traordinary coincidences for the Beard family of Gosport,

Hampshire. Emily's father, David, was born on the 4th day of the 4th month at 4.40pm, her mother, Heien, entered the world on the 10th of the 10th, her brother Harry on the 6th of the 6th, and her maternal grandmother, Sylvia, arri-ved on the 11th of the 11th.

The sequence has been rated a million-to-one chance by Ladbrokes. Mr Beard, a heating engineer. said: "Emily was supposed to be born at 10am. But there put the birth back.

"When I rang my mum to tell her, she said I'd been born at 4.40. That's when we

BECOME

Strippers.
Mr Leighton-Pope added:
"Nothing lewd happens at all,
although there may be some
scenes which would make a

housemistress blush. It is all

done in the best possible

Asked whether the eight strippers actually did a full

monty", he replied: "It is a

trick of the light."

A spokesman for the City

Hall in Salisbury described the Chippendales' show as

"good clean fun". It lasted two

hours and 900 women and just one man made up the audience who paid £13.50 each

He added: The men

stripped to their underwear

and then the lights went out. It

always goes down a storm. All

the women were cheering and

chanting as it went on. It was

for tickets.

Delia Smith buys a slice of **Norwich City**

By PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

WHILE the rest of the country turns to her Christmas recipes. Delia Smith has given herself a non-culinary treat: a plump shareholding in Nor-wich City Football Club.

She and her husband, Michael Wynn Jones, a publisher have bought 42 per cent of the shares in the club, retiqued to have cost about: £700.000. No more queueing for season tickets for them.

The couple, who live near Stownside in Suffolk, beame directors of Norwich City in Movember 1996 after they lett the club £1 million, the interest on which was to be

used for special club projects.
Since then Ms Smith, whose cookery books and various offshoots have made her one of the wealthiest women in the country, has introduced the players to high-carbohydrate and low-fat breakfasts before training and more of the same afterwards.

She has also provided them with recipes for baked tomato risotto, Irish tea bread, and carrot cake to make and eat at home. Her own dies surrounding matches is not so virtuous: fish and chips on Saturdays, McDonald's midweek.

"It is extremely exciting and gives us an awful lot of oleasure," said Ms Smith vesterday of her buy. "We are supporters and season ticketholders and in the last year we have had a chance to see what happens behind the scenes. If you showed me a profit and

which way up to hold it — but I have other gifts."

It was Mr Wynn Jones, the editor of Sainsbury's Magazine and a supporter of the Canaries from the age of 11, who introduced Mrs Smith to Norwich City. Her football fever began with England's 1966 World Cup win, but support for Norwich gave her a more day to-day focus. The couple have been regular visitors to Norwich games, both home and away for nearly 26

They bought their shares from Geoffrey Watling, 84, but have no interest in ousting the Lockwood. "We are not going to go in with all guns blazing, and nothing like that is on the agenda," Mr Wynn Jones said. Their plan is to boost the club's annual revenues by El million through additional catering, sponsorship and commercial activities.

On the footballing side, there is delight. Mike Walker. the club manager, said: "It is a stabilises the club. They have been successful in business and if they want to bring that success to the football club, it's

got to be brilliant." For Ms Smith, the purchase is more than a financial transaction. I think everyone wants to give the talents they have. she says. "It is very nice when you reach middle age and you can go in another direction."



Delia Smith: a regular visitor to Norwich games

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The Hi-Speed Company

Scargill 'guilty of misconduct' over £800,000 cash transfer

By Mark Henderson

ARTHUR SCARGILL is set to be disqualified as a trustee of two miners' welfare organisations after the Charity Commission vesterday found him guilty of misconduct over a £800,000 cash transfer.

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers will be removed as a trustee of the Yorkshire Miners' Welfare Trust Fund and the Yorkshire Miners' Welfare Convalescent Homes if he fails to respond adequately to the findings of a year-long investigation into a cash transfer between the two charities, which censured him and the NUM vice-president, Frank Cave.

Mr Scargill and Mr Cave were found to have moved the money from the trust fund to the convalescent homes during inquorate meetings and in breach of correct procedures for approving such grants. They are alleged to have pressed the transfer to prevent the money being used for miners' welfare projects run in conjunction with employers.

They have until the end of January to make representations to the commission to contest the findings, and have begun a High Court action against their proposed disqualification which will be

heard in April. The commission launched the inquiry in January after complaints from other trustees, thought to be British Coal appointments to the board, that Mr Scargill and Mr Cave



action in High Court

had broken rules to force through the transfer. The NUM officials were suspended as trustees in June.

The commissioners said yesterday that, after the investigation, they were "satisfied that there has been misconduct and mismanagement in the administration of the charities and that it was necessary or desirable to remove Mr Scargill and Mr Cave from their trusteeship".

The transfer prevented money from the miners' trust fund being used for welfare projects that are "partnershipfunded" with employers under rules introduced after the privatisation of the coal industry in 1995. The NUM opposes partnership funding, which it says demands unfair contributions from miners and should be wholly funded by employ-

ers and the state. In May 1995 the trustees of the charitie took a unanimous decision not to take part in the scheme in the "best interests" of Yorkshire miners, according to Mr

The trust fund was established in 1984 to "promote the health, social well-being and pondition of living" of current and former miners. The convalescent homes charity, which runs two homes near Scarborough, was set up in 1966. Mr Scargill and Mr Cave were also criticised by the commission over one of the Scarborough homes, which "improperly" refused places to former miners who had not continued to pay made redundant.

The commission did not uggest that Mr Scargill or Mr Cave had sought to benefit personally from the transfer. but found that they had taken isions at meetings attended by too few trustees and had failed to follow procedures for approving such grants be-

The NUM said in a statement yesterday: "The national executive pledges full support for Arthur Scargill and condemns the outrageous decision to first suspend and now remove the NUM president as

Mr Scargill said yesterday: The union's lawyers have court proceedings issued against the Charity Commissioners and demanded that both Frank Cave and I be



Shark skin cure for the boy who fell on a fire

SCIENCE EDITOR

BOY of two who was badly burnt after falling on to a gas fire, has a shark to thank for his restored skin.

His surgeon, John Gowar, of Birmingham Selly Oak Hospital, used an American material called Integra to repair the 31 per cent burns on Harry Sherwood's body. It is made from a mixture of calf tendon, a rich source of the protein collagen, and shark cartilage, which encourages the wounded tissue

to grow again. Mr Gowar has used the material before, as have other British surgeons, but he is especially pleased with the results of Harry's operation. He used £2,500 worth of the artificial skin, made in New Jersey, to repair burns on Harry's back, chest, arms and bettom.

Harry's mother, Donna, of Walsall, said: "I've been mazed how normal Harry's skin looks. It's just a little bit lumpy, but Mr Gowar expects that to settle down fairly quickly. He will still need to go back to hospital for dressings for quite a while yet, but at least he enjoys the train journeys."

lutegra mimics skin with its two layers - an upper layer of silicone, which copies the epidermis, and a lower one, or dermis, made up of bovine collagen and shark cartilage. When laid on top of burnt tissue, the collagen is digested and a new layer of dermis produced.

After a couple of weeks the a layer of the patient's own epidermis seeded on to the surface. This grows into a new skin with little scarring,

Defence ministers clear the Eurofighter for £40bn take-off



The Eurofighter on the ground: it is designed to beat rivals in "close encounters of the worst kind"

By MICHAEL EVANS

THE Eurofighter aircraft, designed to beat its rivals in "close encounters of the worst kind", cleared the final political hurdle yesterday when four defence ministers signed an agreement for the full production phase of the £40 billion programme.

After years of political wrangling. mainly between Germany and its three other partners, Britain, Italy and Spain, over price rises and the increasing sophistication of the multirole combat jet, the signing in Bonn will safeguard 80,000 jobs in Britain and provide the RAF with an aircraft to replace the Jaguar and Tornado air defence fighter.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, who signed a memoran-

dum of understanding with his three gramme will ensure that the Euro-European counterparts for the plane's production and in-service support phases of the programme, said: "This is a historic event which commits us to the future of the Eurofighter programme. It is also a vital step towards providing the at forces of our four nations with the aircraft they need to respond to the uncertain challenges ahead."

Responding to critics of Euro-fighter, which will cost British taxpayers about £16 billion — the Ministry of Defence's most expensive procurement contract - Mr Robertson said: "Our studies have shown conclusively that Eurofighter is the best available combat aircraft for the UK in the post-Cold War world." He added: "The four-nation propean aerospace industry remains at the forefront of technology. It could also prove a catalyst for the industrial restructuring that is essential if Europe is to remain competitive in the world defence market.

Next June, the tium, consisting of British Aerospace, Dasa of Germany, Casa of Spain and Alenia of Italy, will sign a production contract with the four governments to build 232 of the aircraft for the RAF, 180 for the Luftwaffe, 121 for the Italian air force and 87 for the Spanish.

Deliveries to the RAF are scheduled to begin in June 2002 and run on until 2014. British industry is primarily involved in construction of the front end of the jet, the cockpit, the front canard wings, part of the main wings, the new EJ200 engines and much of the avionics, including the advanced new radar.

cluding GEC-Marconi, Dowty, Lucas, Martin Baker and Smiths elopment of a range of equipment. The aircraft will be assembled at British Aerospace sites in Lancashire from components manufactured by companies in the four partner nations. Rolls-Royce will manufacture the engines, primarily at plants in

Bristol and Derby.

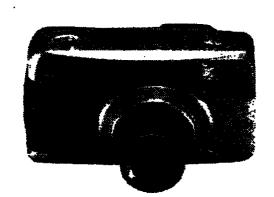
British Aerospace claims that only the American F22 Raptor, currently in development and estimated to cost twice as much as Eurofighter, will be able to out-manoeuvre the Eurofighter in the next generation aircraft

The MoD said the F22 would not .. be a good purchase because it would :: About 200 British companies, in accest an extra £8 billion for just an eight per cent improvement in

have claimed that Eurofighter has not been designed with stealth technology, because it doesn't look like the American F117 Stealth fighter.

"But if it had been designed to look;" like the stealth fighter it wouldn't be able to operate as an air superiority aircraft. Eurofighter was designed to win dogfights and to be able to fly very tight turns and to escape at supersonic speeds without afterburners, and that's as stealthy as it needs

SLIMMER OF THE YEAR.



Winner of the 'European Compact Camera of the Year 1997' (and 1996), the light, elegant and exceptionally high quality SAMSUNG Slim Zoom 145S has everything you need to take great pictures with the utmost ease. It makes it simple for beginners to experiment, with intelligent zooming modes like 'fuzzy' and 'head and shoulders', plus shooting modes like 'continuous', 'interval' and 'spot' - you can even take three shots at three different lengths!

Other features include a 38-145mm power zoom lens, a built -in flash with 'auto', 'fill-in', 'off' and 'pre-flash' for red eye reduction, multi-autofocus, backlight control and exposure compensation, self-timer, 'landscape'

and 'switchable 'panorama' modes. £249. The price also includes 'Taking Better Pictures', a special VHS video with full operating instructions.

Photographic Department, Lower Ground Floor.



Union seeks an answer to lack of teachers

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE biggest teaching union is joining forces with Government advisers to try to settle the arguments over what is putting graduates off joining the profession.
The unions have argued

that low pay, stress and con-stant criticism from politicians and the media are responsible for poor recruitment and retention. Ministers insist that they balance pressure with support for teachers and that pay compares well with other

Now the National Union of Teachers is mounting joint research with the Teacher Training Agency to find the real influences on students. Miore than 3,000 final-year students have been asked their view of teaching as a career. A select committee of MPs

has expressed concern about the feasibility of meeting the Government's class size targets and maintaining quality in a range of shortage subjects unless more candidates can be attracted into the profession. The TTA has already launched a £10 million campaign to sell the profession to graduates with cinema advertising featuring Tony Blair and celebrities from the arts and sport.

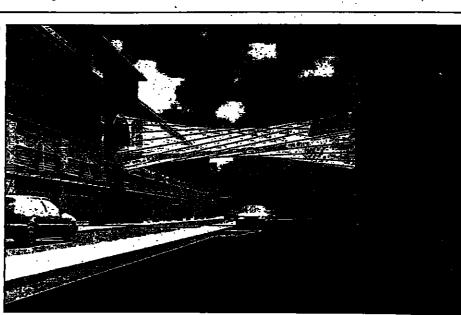
Recruitment to teacher training has declined sharply since the economy began to recover and more opportunities opened up for graduates. Postgraduate courses had attracted only 13,500 applications by the beginning of December, compared with 15,172 a year earlier. The fouryear first-degree Bachelor of Education is also showing an 8 per cent drop in applications. Pupil numbers will continue to rise until at least 2002. Although the targets for re-cruitment to training courses were raised this month, the

NUT doubts that enough graduates will join unless

conditions in schools improve. Doug McAvoy, the union's general secretary, said: "The Government insists that its aim is to see ever-improving performance in schools. But this cannot be achieved without a significant increase in the numbers of teachers recruited from among the brightest and best in our schools and higher education

establishments. This survey will help the TTA and the NUT to counter tacles to recruitment identified by the young people we most need to attract."

☐ David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, announced a £59 million boost in funding for education authorities to meet ambitious literacy targets yesterday. The Government has committed itself to ensuring that four out of five II-year-olds reach their expected reading age by 2002. The first allocations from the Government's £500 million standards fund were made to coincide with the second reading of the School Standards and Framework Bill. Mr Blunkett said: "A firm grasp of the basics is vital for every



How Manchester city centre's new bridge will look. The IRA blew up the old one

Bombed city will have bridge to the future

By Russell Jenkins

A GLASS BRIDGE of futuristic design is to span a street in Manchester city centre on the spot where the IRA bomb exploded last year, as a symbol of the city's recovery after the shopping and office centre was ripped apart.

The tubular bridge, which replaces the damaged original, will span Corporation Street, linking the world's largest Marks and Spencer store with the Arndale Centre, it was announced yesterday. Manchester Millennium

Ltd, which is overseeing the £1 billion rebuilding programme for the city centre, chose the design, an hourglass-shaped spiral of steel and glass, from four final submissions. Its creators claim it as a world first.

Shoppers will be able to

walk along a timber path through the largely transpar-ent tube. The design was put together by architects Hodder Associates and the structural engineers Ove Arup.

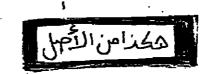
Patrick Karney, chairman of Manchester City Council's city centre committee, said: The bridge will provide a dramatic experience for people either using or passing under it and is a safe and exciting link between two of the most popular shopping complexes in town." Stephen Hodder, of Stephen Hodder Associates, said: The image of the rained bridge was one of the most vivid following the bombing. I feel that the reinstatement of the bridge may be seen as a symbol of the city centre's recovery."

Publication of the design

came on the same day as the Prudential confirmed that terms had been agreed with P&O for the acquisition of the Arndale Centre for more than £300 million.

A design team has been appointed to create Exchange Square, a new public space, as part of the rebuilding pro-gramme. Martha Schwartz Inc. based in Massachusetts, has been awarded the commission to create a "superior and vital new public square". Martha Schwartz, a landscape gardener, is the inspiration behind large scale urban projects in New York City and

The detailed designs for Manchester are to be submitted to the city council's city centre committee in March



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the boy Heart and lung boy, 10, dies in mother's arms

By PAUL WILKINSON

"TAIN'S youngest heart and lung transplant patient has died more than seven years after his pioneering

operation. .. Ten-year-old Stephen Holhis, an only child, died peacefully in the arms of his mother, Sonia, on Sunday night. His donated heart and lungs were still working well at the end, but his kidneys had failed, probably from the side-effects of the drugs he took to combat rejection of the transplant.

Yesterday his father, Mick Hollis, said: "We have had seven years with Stephen we might not have expected without the transplant. We have some beautiful memories that no one can take away.

"It couldn't have happened at a worse time of year. Stephen always loved Christmas and this one is going to be inpty without him. But he exceeded all expectations. I am glad he has passed away so peacefully. We have so many beautiful memories that we wouldn't have had without the transplant, and we will trea-

"He died peacefully in bed at home. We have known for a while that we have been on borrowed time. There has been a slow deterioration and we have watched him go through some bad times over the past 12 months.

We knew it was coming, but we always just hoped that bit wouldn't happen yet. We rushed him into hospital last



Mick Hollis: said his son had died peacefully

Monday but, by Wednesday night, his condition had de-clined so much that they told us there was nothing more they could do and we should

"Over the years he has had to be on a strict diet. But when we left the hospital, the doctors told us to forget it and let him have what he wanted. On the way home we called at a chip shop and he had his first fish and chips for two years. In the final few days he has been eating bars of chocolate and crisps which he hadn't been able to have."

Stephen, from Horbury, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire, was born with lungs a quarter of the normal size and his parents were told that his only hope of survival was a heart and lung transplant.

ation could take place at Killingbeck Hospital in Leeds, on April 28, 1990. At the time Stephen was just over three years old.

Only two days later he was tucking into chips and yoghurt and amazing doctors by the speed of his recovery. He went home a month after the opera-

At first doctors put him on eight different drugs which his parents had to administer nine times a day. As time passed, the number of drugs was reduced, but he still faced a daily mixture. Mr Hollis, 42, a van driver said: "The sideeffects finally got to him."

He said that, despite his condition, Stephen had been able to start school with other children of his age and joined in playground games. Until the final few months, he had lived life to the full.

But the nature of his pio neering operation meant there was always a question mark about his long-term future and his parents continued to make the most of the fun he had.

Yesterday Duncan Walker, the surgeon who caried out the transplant, said: "I am very sorry to hear of Stephen's death. It is very sad news. The drugs that transplant patients have to take can be very toxic.

"I feel for his parents who have to be very dedicated to make sure the children take all the medication they have to ... Stephen was a real live-wire. My thoughts are with his



Stephen Hollis was born with lungs a quarter of the normal size. He had a transplant operation seven years ago

Father to sue hospitals over kidney transplant failure

A FATHER who donated a kidney to save his son plans to suc the hospital trust that carried out the transplant.

The operation did not succeed, was negligence by the Portsmouth trust's hospitals failed to identify

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR that his kidney had more than one artery leading to it, which makes the operation more difficult.

He volunteered to give a kidney to his son, Paul, in March 1995. Operations involving live donors have become much more common after what Albert Young will claim in recent years, as there are never sufficient kidneys to meet the Hospitals NHS Trust. Mr. Young. demand for transplants. Both un-who is in his 60s, says that the derwent tests and treatment at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, and

nearby Cosham, until the transplant operation in November that

His solicitor, Andrew Thompson, has now served a High Court writ to obtain medical records connected with the operation. He is trying to prove that the kidney was removed without doctors performing adequate tests to-

determine Mr Young's suitability

was not aware of another case in which an organ donor had taken legal action against a hospital trust. He believed that any damages award would be likely to

as a kidney donor for his son. Mr Thompson, of the London-

exceed £100.000 What we are saying is that the extraction should never have taken place," Mr Thompson said.

Mr Young, who refused to comment, now has only one kidbased firm Bolt Burdon, which specialises in cases of alleged medical negligence, said that he ney, but is back at work. He is planning to sue for the pain, loss, injury and damage he says he suffered as a result of the operation. His son, who is still alive, was also unavailable for comment.

A spokeswoman for Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust said she was

aware of the impending legal action. "Beyond that we cannot comment," she said. At Guy's and St Thomas's Hospi-

tal Trust in London, where many kidney transplant techniques have been pioneered, a spokeswoman said multi-vessel operations were rarely carried out on live donors. There is a different approach to the operation and it is more difficult." she added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stalker dead after assault in street

A stalker freed from custody on Friday, on condition that he stay out of Inverness, died after apparently being attacked in the town hours later. Michael MacKintosh, 60, is believed to have suffered serious head injuries and died in hospital in Aberdeen on Sunday. He had admitted in court that he had persistently followed and harassed a named woman, and was ordered not to approach or communicate

Crash injuries

A 26-year-old student and her boyfriend were seriously injured after a sports car stolen from the wife of the comedian Harry Enfield last month collided with their car near Buckman has been charged.

Chase charge

A man appeared before magistrates in Bolton charged with manslaughter and criminal damage after a taxi driver was killed by a car when he was chased on to a road. Dean Kirkman, 20, from Bolton.

Ex-agent cleared

Bernard Carr, 44, a Hartlepool councillor and former election agent of Peter Mandelson, was cleared of gross indecency after the Crown Prosecution Service asked local magistrates to discontinue the case.

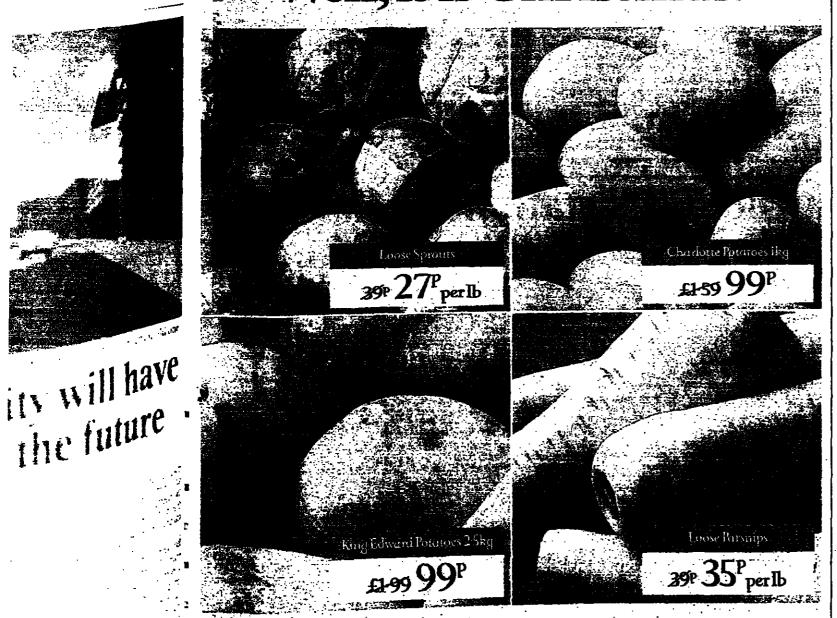
Blind tasting

Britain's first audible restaurant menu service has been launched. Via Vita and Brown's have joined the scheme, in which blind customers are handed portable cassette players and a tape of the day's menu.

Chain reaction

Chain-gang style uniforms for Scottish offenders on community service - introduced by Michael Forsyth, the former Scottish Secretary - are to abolished. Local authorities had complained about the practice being demeaning.

Great offers at Sainsbury's. Well, it is Christmas.



Christmas at Sainsbury's

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SIEMENS



Furore as McAleese takes rival Host

A conciliatory gesture by the Irish President

has angered the Roman Catholic

Church, reports

Martin Fletcher

MARY McALEESE has become embroiled in the first major controversy of what promises to be a fiery sevenyear term as President of Ireland after taking Communion in a Protestant church.

Through this seemingly laudable attempt to "build bridges" to Northern Ireland, the former Belfast law professor has created an unseasonal dispute between Roman Catholic and Protestant leaders, exposed a widening gulf between the Catholic hierarchy and its increasingly liberal flock, and raised the prospect of an unprecedented showdown between Church and

On Sunday Jean Kennedy Smith, the American Ambas-sador and a member of her country's most prominent Catholic family, joined the controversy by taking Communion in the same place -Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral - where Dr McAleese undertook that simple but highly symbolic act on December 7. Religion was "about bringing people together," Mrs Kennedy Smith said.

It is believed that no Irish President of the Catholic faith has taken Communion in a Protestant church before. As a practising Catholic and former adviser to Catholic bishops, Dr McAleese must have fully understood the implications of her action. She was evidently determined to keep her electoral promise and reach out across Ireland's religious divi le. But the backlash has been swift.

Within days the Irish Bishops Conference declared that, under canon law, it was "not permissible for Roman Catholics to receive Communion in Protestant churches or at Protestant services", and pointedly expressed the hope that "the issue will not arise again". Desmond Connell,

President McAleese taking Communion at the Anglican Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin. Her gesture was supported by Jean Kennedy Smith, the US Ambassador, below

Catholic Archbishop of Dublin and a theological purist, then inflamed matters further by suggesting during a radio interview that for a Catholic to take Communion in a Protestant church was a "sham".

Robin Eames, Primate of the Church of Ireland, hit back by saying he deeply regretted that something as sacred as the Eucharist should become the source of division, especially at a time when Christians of different traditions are earnestly seeking greater un-derstanding and the healing of

long-standing wounds". The Church of Ireland welcomed baptised Christians of any tradition who wanted to participate in the Eucharist. he said. "In a world of increasing secularism and a world in which Christianity itself is under attack, we ought surely to emphasise our points of

agreement rather than overemphasising our differences. Since then there has been a

virtual free-for-all, with clergy, theologians, commentators and nuns weighing in with varying degrees of anger and regret, and Irish newspapers dedicating whole pages to the issue. Dr McAleese alone has remained silent. But then the tide of public opinion seems to be flowing strongly her way.

In a church in Co Cork on Sunday, several parishioners walked out when the priest said that Dr McAleese may have committed a mortal sin. One poll showed nearly 80 per cent supported her. Newspaper letters pages have been equally supportive, as have

The Irish Times lamented that the Catholic Church had been so ungenerous and forthright" in its condemnation, and suggested that it "seems set to lose ground and goodwill even with the many people who wish it well". Dr McAleese had "given tangible expression to her promise of being a builder of bridges. It is regrettable that Dr Connell and others cannot so readily

be counted in her company."

Dr McAleese's gesture was also welcomed in the North, where she is regarded with suspicion by many Unionists. She showed that "her professions about bridge-building come from the heart", said the Belfast Telegraph. "The Catholic hierarchy felt it had to react - though it might have been best to remain silent".

The burning question now is not whether, but when, Dr McAleese will again take Communion in a Protestant church - and how the Catholic Church will react.



Heresy that has roots in centuries of persecution

ROMAN Catholics are instructed from the cradle that to take Communion in a Protestan church is forbidden because Protestant sacraments are considered

to be invalid. The quest: n is still highly emo-tive for most traditional Catholics. many of whom can recall an era when even to enter a Protestant church was not far short of necesy.

"Mary McAleese has taken Holy Communion in a church whose sacraments the Catholic Church does not recognise as valid or true sacraments in the Catholic sense." said Monsignor William Steele. ecumenical officer for the Catholic diocese of Leeds. "This is the only example I know of where a Catholic Head of State has done this." The row stems from the Refor-

■ To Anglicans, the bread and wine are symbols; to Catholics they are the body and blood of Christ. Ruth Gledhill reports on a fundamental difference

mation and the question of priestly orders in the Anglican Church. Catholicism after the Reformation was outlawed and a series of draconian penal laws introduced. Everyone was forced to attend their new Anglican parish church each week, and anyone who refused to do so was fined.

Worse still for Catholics, under a series of laws passed from 1571 onwards, any Catholic priest discovered in England was considered to be guilty of treason and subject to the death penalty. The

first to die was Father Cuthbert

Mavne in 1577. Gradually, over the centuries, the laws became less stricty enforced, and were finally lifted under Catholic emancipation in the 19th century.

But memories of the sufferings of that time remain, embodied in the surviving priests' holes in the homes of wealthy recusants who sheltered them from persecution. While ecumenism has opened up unprecedented dialogue be-tween Anglicans and Catholics this century, the row over orders lin-

In the immediate aftermath of the Reformation, it centred on whether the Church of England had maintained the apostolic succession in the consecration of its

There were repeated claims that the vital continuity in the "laying on of hands" from the time of the apostles had been broken with the appointment of Archbishop Matthew Parker by Queen Elizabeth I

The Church of that era was split by rumours that, instead of being validly consecrated in the chapel of Lambeth Palace, Archbishop Parker had knelt on the floor of a pub, the Nag's Head in Cheapside, and been told by a bishop who had

been deprived of his living to "receive the power of preaching the Word of God sincerely". This

rumour was subsequently

repudiated. But in 1896, Pope Leo XIII issued an encyclical. Apostolicae Curae, which still stands, and in which he condemned Anglican orders as "absolutely null and

utterly void". This was on the grounds that the "intention" of the Anglican Church in its ordination rite is defective because there are no words or acts which confer explicitly on the priest the power to offer sacrifice.

The Second Vatican Council, which met from 1962 to 1965, softened the line slightly.

In its document on ecumenism, the council recognised that the Holy Spirit was at work in the sacraments of other Churches. However, when the Church of England decided in 1992 to ordain

women, it became clear from the

Catholic response that Apostolicae Curae was still the official line. But even if the difficulty over priestly orders were to be resolved. problems still remain over the nature of the sacrament itself.

Many Anglicans believe the bread and wine to be mere symbols of the body and blood of Christ, whereas Catholics believe they

have been transformed by the sacrament into the actual body and blood of Christ.

cradle Catholic There is no

comparison."

"It is like the difference between whisky and lemonade," said one

Ex-envoy om Irao en given bail of £10,000

A former iraqi ambassador seeking refuge in Britain was released from immigration detention yesterday, seven weeks after arriving at Heathrow airport on a false passport. Majid al-Samarrai insists the he faces death if he should return to Iraq.

Mr al-Samarrai. 49. a former Iraqi government propa-ganda chief and Ambassador to Libya, Bulgaria and most recently Venezuela, was re-leased on £10,000 bail after a hearing at the Immigration Appelate Authority in Feltham. West London.

The former head of National Radio and Television in Baghdad was interrogated by MI5 officers during his detention. His lawyer said that he would be asking the Home Office to issue urgent travel documents to allow Mr al-Samarrai's family to join him in Britain.

£13,000 train set

One of the oldest model trains to be sold at auction fetche £13,800 in London. The German timplate toy, consisting of a locomotive, tender, two carriages and three goods wag-ons, was made by Buchner of Nuremberg. It had had only three corners since 1849.

Ship fire rages

Firefighters were tackling a blaze on the 29,000-ton British-registered Kukawa, which was towed into Falmouth by a tug. A stowaway who emerged after the fire broke out in the engine room in mid-Channel on Saturday was being questioned by immigration officers.

Drug-rape arrest

A man of 19 was remanded in custody by Manchester magistrates, charged with drugging and raping a schoolgirl. Kevin Michael Hunt, of from Newall Green. Wythenshawe. Manchester, is accused of attacking the 12-year-old girl on Friday.

Ferry rescue

Three hundred passengers were involved in a rescue operation when their ferry. The Pride of Le Havre, went to the aid of a blazing cargo ship in the Channel. All crew

Pilot killed

A pilot, killed when his twoseater Cessna crashed into a hillside near Gatehouse of Fleet in Dumfries and Galloway on Sunday, has been named as Phillip Williams, 44. of Kilmarnock. He was flying from Carlisle to Prestwick. and had reported a fault.

Turkey's reprieve A 20lb turkey on a poultry farm at Hemyock, Devon, has been saved from the Christmas table after becoming surrogate mother to !! duck lings. It sat on the nest of abandoned eggs for 28 days and now stands guard over the hatched ducklings.

Neighbours at War.

information available."

Our programme will be

different with full public ser-

vice support for people caught

up in these situations. There

will be a hotline and other

The BBC denied it was

being petty and small-minded

and claimed that the idea of

feuding neighbours had been

done by Channel 4 and World

in Action before. "It is not

new", said the spokesman.

Mr Liddiment has recently

poached a number of high

profile staff from the BBC

The best Christmas present for 500 years

For 500 years the Nukak, one of Amazonia's last nomadic tribes, have seen their land stolen from them, and their people die. Recently half their population has been wiped out by diseases brought in by outsiders. The man on the right of this photo was amongst them. But now, thanks to Survival's members, their land and their future are secure.

Colombian government this week finally moved to protect all the Nukak's land. For the first Christmas in 500 years the Nukak have a reason to celebrate. Unfortunately, many other tribal peoples around the world are not so lucky. If you would like to help the world's most effective campaigning organisation for tribal peoples, please ask for details.

After a six-year Survival campaign, the Survival is a worldwide organisation supporting tribal peoples. It stands for their right to decide their own future and helps them As the Nukak will confirm, it's worth it.

Boxer sentenced TV stations declare war for threat to PCs over hellish neighbours

By A Correspondent

HERBIE HIDE, the world heavyweight boxing champion, was ordered yesterday to do 60 hours' community ser-vice after admitting using threatening behaviour to two police officers.

The 26-year-old Briton, who holds the World Boxing Org-anisation version of the heavyweight crown, threw a punch at PC Maria-Jane Horder. which she ducked to avoid, magistrates in Norwich were told. He also pushed PC Robin Boothby, 33, in the face.

Hide, who lives in Norwich. admitted threatening behaviour at a hearing earlier this month. A charge of assaulting police officers, which he denied, had been dismissed after the prosecution offered no evidence.

The magistrates ordered They said he should pay PC Horder and PC Boothby. plus £50 costs.

him to complete his community service within 12 months. compensation of £50 each to Hide was stopped while driving his Bentley erratically

in Norwich late one night in

July and, questioned by police,

he had become abusive, screw-

ing up a traffic form and

swearing. Nick Methold, for

the prosecution, said that PC

Boothby was pushed in the face while attempting to radio for assistance after Hide had snatched a traffic docket from

PC Horder approached the boxer and told him he was in danger of being arrested. "He threw a punch at her with his hand in a clenched fist," said Mr Methold. "It missed. She ducked to avoid it."

The court was told that Hide was in breach of a conditional discharge order imposed two years ago after he was convicted of causing criminal damage in a "road rage" incident. Magistrates heard that he had driven into the back of a woman's car after taking a "dim view" of the way she was driving. He also owed nearly £600 in unpaid traffic and

ed to help to create a new

image for Hide and to allow

him to concentrate on boxing.

parking fines. After the hearing Hide, who regained his title in Norwich in June and is to defend it in February, said he hoped to complete his community service by doing fitness work with youngsters. The boxer was accompanied to court by his new agent, the former Wimbledon footballer John Fashanu, who said he intend-

THE documentary Neighbours from Hell was responsible yesterday for causing a fresh outbreak of hostility

between ITV and the BBC. ITV's director of programmes, David Liddiment, accused BBCI executives of "petty small-mindedness" and accused them of poaching the idea from under ITV's nose.

The result is that both channels will now screen uncannily similar documentaries about feuding neighbours within an hour of each other on the same night. Mr Liddiment said it was a blatant example of the BBC letting its preoccupation with ratings override its commit-ment to its public service

The war began last summer when ITV showed its one-off, hour-long programme Neigh-bours from Hell, which gained an audience of 11 mil-lion. ITV immediately began planning a follow-up series but in the autumn the programme maker, Carlton, made the executive producer,

Roger James, redundant.
The two freelance directors who had been working with Mr James decided they wanted to carry on working with him and offered the idea to

BY CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT BBC1's controller, Peter Salmscheduling Neighbours from Hell on the same night as on, who snapped it up. The

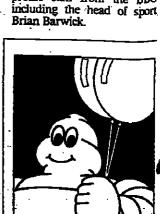
team then rushed to get the programme together and have an unfinished series of two episodes of Neighbours at War to begin screening on Monday, January 5, at 9.30 pm, which was for years scheduled as the Panorama

ITV has responded by rescheduling its series Neighbours from Hell at 8.30 pm on the same night, insisting that it was a commercial, competitive organisation, not a publicly funded one.

Mr Liddiment said he was very surprised" the BBC had copycatted" ITV's idea. "They have a fine tradition of making factual programmes, and I am surprised they need to nick ideas from us. It is petty and rather pathetic.

"Neighbours at War is scheduled in what was a slot reserved for serious investigative journalism. Panorama has now been put back to 10 pm, which shows the increasing marginalisation of its public service responsibil-

A BBC spokesman said: "ITV is being disingenuous for taking the conscious decison to risk irritating the audience by



Record-breaking bird comes in from the cold

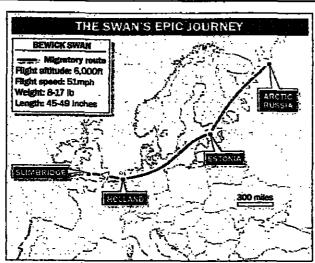
A Russian swan is back for its 27th Christmas, writes Lin Jenkins

A BEWICK'S swan named Casino has entered the record books by returning to Britain for its 27th consecutive winter.

. The swan landed at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust at Slimbridge, Gloucester-shire, after a 2,500-mile flight From northern Russia. Its anaual arrival at the reserve beats by a year the previous record set by a Bewick's swan in the early 1980s. The normal lifespan of a Bewick's swan is

Its history has been chronicled by researchers at Slimbridge. They know that the bird has had two mates, both now dead, and 32 offspring. One of its cygnets has joined it at the reserve, which is used as a wintering ground by between 400 and 500 Bewick's swans.

They will stay until the end of February before returning to their Russian breeding grounds. John Bowler, a re-search officer at Slimbridge, has been watching the bird's has been watching the bird's a chick, no longer has its tag progress for nine years. He said: "She is looking very good Slimbridge watchers because



and there is no apparent reason why she should not keep going. She could pair up and breed again and we have our fingers crossed for next

The bird, who was ringed as

of its distinctive beak markings. However, if it returns next year, Dr Bowler will not be there to see it. He is shortly to begin a new job, tracking sea and tropical birds in the Seychelles for the Wildlife

He said: "I am looking forward to the change, But I

will miss the Bewick's swans, particularly Casino."

Bewick's swans are winter visitors to Britain and are sometimes confused with whooper swans, which have a similar flight, call and habits. They nest on tundra and breed on islets in estuaries of large rivers or near shallow water on low-lying shores. Some-times several pairs may nest in a limited area, each pair building a large, smooth nest up to 22th high and built of moss with a few lichens.

In winter and in migration, the swans can be seen on lakes, reservoirs, flooded grasslands and sometimes sheltered sea bays. They feed almost entirely on vegetable matter - seeds, pond grass and aquatic plants - although part of a small fish has been recorded, and remains of warer insects.

Bewick's swans are less common than mute or whooper swans, but can often be seen in family groups or large flocks when they winter in



Casino the Bewick's swan at Slimbridge yesterday. It is the oldest swan recorded

Chief of police puts policy into practice

By Paul WILKINSON

A CHIEF constable has experienced policing at the sharp end while travelling through his patch. Barry Shaw, 56. who pioneered the "zero tolerance policy in his Cleveland force, was being driven to a carol concert when they saw a woman being attacked by two men. He told PC Ian McDon-

ald to pull over. Before Mr Shaw could intervene, the woman was thrown through a shop window. Assisted by his driver, Mr Shaw held the men until other officers arrived. The woman. 35, who was with two children in Middlesbrough when she was attacked last Thursday evening, did not require medi-

cal attention.

Cleveland police said: "The chief knows that officers on the streets could have dealt with this, but he was on the scene. It does prove that our positive policing strategy goes right to the top." A man has been charged

with assault, and four others are expected to face charges of causing an affray.

Hospital set second patient free to kill

By MARK HENDERSON

killed his neighbour after being released from a hospital which was recently criticised for discharging another patient who went on to kill.

Tolga Kurter, now 20. of Islington, North London, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey yesterday to the man-slaughter of Nicky Boyd, 42, on the ground of diminished responsibility. The Recorder of London, Judge Lawrence Verney, QC, ordered that he be detained indefinitely at Rampton Special Hospital.

Kurter was 19 when he stabbed Mr Boyd to death in April, a few months after undergoing treatment at the Waterlow Unit of the way, North London In March, the same psychiatric unit was the subject of a critical inquiry into the release of Martin Mursell, who killed is stepfather and tried to kill nis mother two weeks after leaving its care in 1994.

yanan .

Norman Harvey, a consul-tant psychiatrist who took the decisions to release both Kurter and Mursell, resigned from his position at the hospital in May after he was suspended pending an inquiry into Mr Boyd's death. Dr Harvey was strongly criticised in the report into the killing by Mursell, which found he had the patient's continuing need for out-patient care. Henry Kennedy, a psychia-

signs that he was suffering

Camden and Health Authority, which is responsible for the Waterlow Unit, won a High Court action this month to halt a damages suit by Christopher Clunis, a psychiatric patient who killed a man on a London Underground platform after being discharged from the authority's care. It is conducting a review of mental health ser-vices, and yesterday an-nounced an inquiry into the

A TEENAGE schizophrenic "not responded adequately" to trist, told the court that Kurter, who had convictions for assault, dishonesty and possessing offensive weapons,

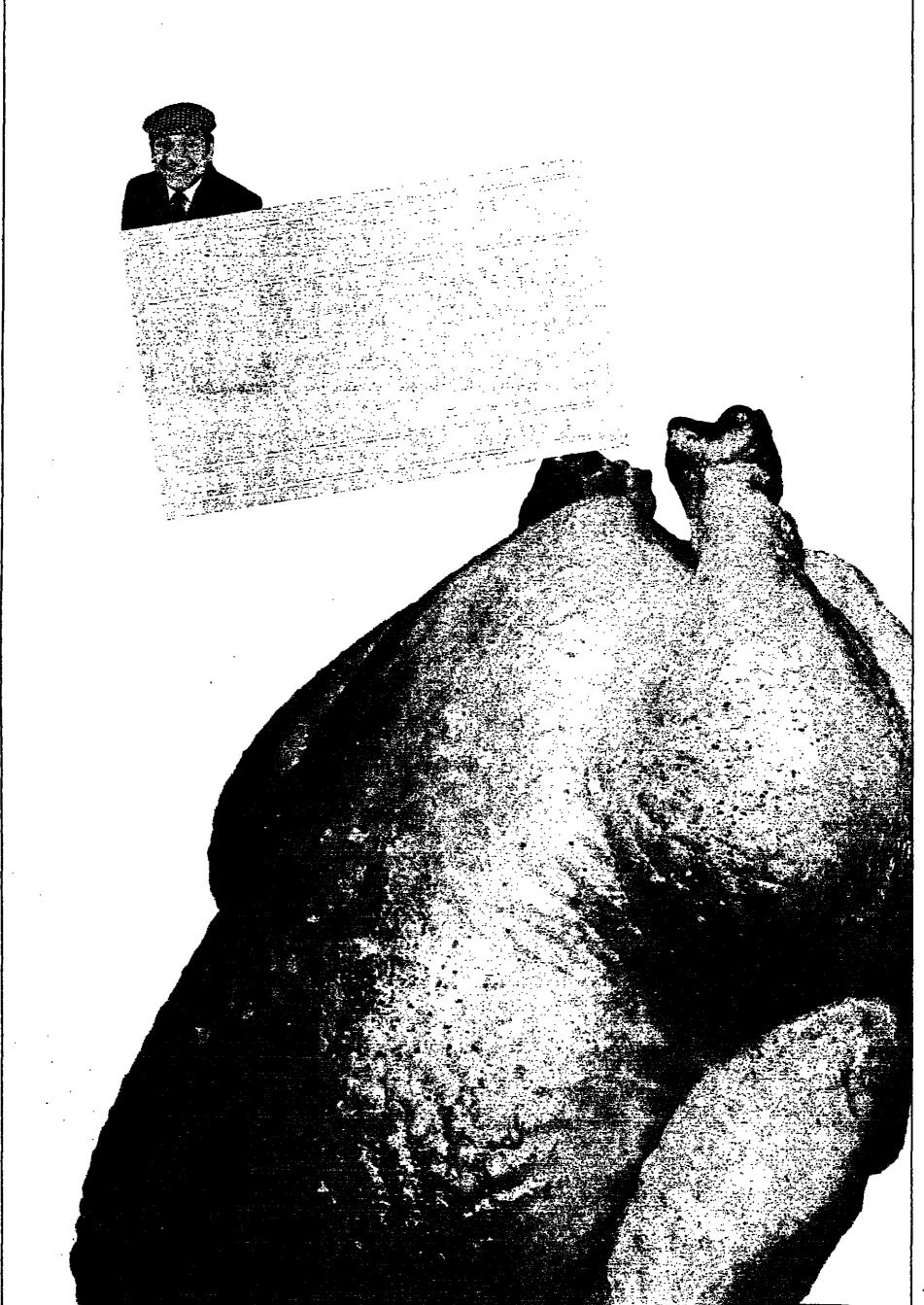
had not been found to have schizophrenia, despite clear from it. "In hindsight, the totality of the information shows he had been exhibiting signs of schizophrenia," he said. "I believe this diagnosis was not reached because the clinicians did not want to

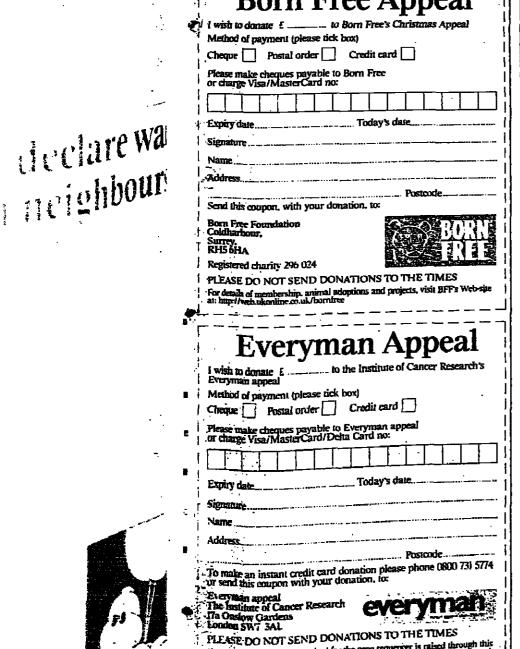
such a devastating prognosis." ... Mr Boyd, a taxi driver who lived on the same estate as Kurter, was stabbed to death on April 22. Kurter believed he had killed Micky Spears. his mother's former lover, the court was told.

make a diagnosis that carries

Born Free Appeal

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America trusts more in God and miracles

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

AMERICANS' faith in God and belief in miracles are surging to their highest levels in ten years, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

Centre in Washington reported that 71 per cent of respondents said they never doubted the existence of God - up from 60 per cent in 1987. Belief that miracles came from the power of God was held by 61 per cent, an increase of 14 per cent from a decade ago. while 53 per cent said prayer was important to daily life, compared to 41 per cent previously.

The trend appears to be reflected in popular cul-ture. The television pro-gramme Touched by an Angel is among the toprated shows, and books on angels, miracles and spirituality are booming.

Martin Marty, a church historian, said science and ideology were not seen as powerful as ten years ago. He drew a contrast between Americans being at ease with the notion of God, and Europe, where religion had suffered from scepticism and wars. He said America's immigrants became more reli-

gious after they arrived. Belief in God does not translate into comparable church attendance. Forty per cent of Americans say they go to church, but the real figure may be only 30 per cent, Mr Marty said.



Leonid Brezhnev on a hunting expedition. The KGB apparently refused his suggestion that it should murder Nikita Khrushchev, right, his predecessor as Soviet leader

KGB refused to kill Khrushchev

BLOOMSBURY 40% OFF

THE late Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, contemplated ordering the assassination of Nikita Khrushchev, his predecessor, in 1964 but lost his nerve and instead instigated a bloodless coup, according to a former secret service chief.

Shedding new light on one of the most dramatic episodes in Soviet history, Vladimir Semichastny, the head of the KGB from 1961 to 1967, broke his silence at the weekend to disclose that the feared secret police had rejected the suggestion that it "eliminate physically" the Communist leader.

Leonid Brezhnev wanted to have

his predecessor assassinated, writes

Richard Beeston from Moscow

"He [Khrushchev] had become, by that time, an overripe fruit for our society and our country, and without his removal problems would have been compounded," the elder-ly former spy chief told Rus-sia's NTV television on Sunday. Although Khrushchev is today fondly remembered by a

HALF PRICE SALE

whole generation of Russians for his liberalism and his famous speech in 1956 denouncing Stalin to the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, after a decade in power he had become increasingly isolated from the party

Brezhnev was the key insti-

gator of a plot to overthrow so he did not have enough him that had the tacit support courage to go about it." Mr of the KGB and most key members of the Politburo. However, only a decade after the death of Stalin, none of the leadership wanted to take the first move for fear of being arrested and shot.

"Brezhnev was not a particularly brave man," Mr Semichastny said. "He was already willing to become the top leader, but wanted someone else to sort things out with Khrushchev, without getting involved himself. He was still rather afraid of Khrushchev

that Khrushchev should be removed by force, either through arrest or assassina-tion. When this matter was raised, I flatly refused, saying there would be no physical action and no arrest, nothing like that," he said. "You have a Central Committee plenum. you have the Central Committee, I said, so go on and make a decision, but we are not going to do this - at least the KGB

courage to go about it." Mr Semichastry said that Brezh-

nev finally approached the

KGB directly and suggested

will not play any part." In the event, Brezhnev waited until Khrushchev went on holiday to the Black Sea resort of Pitsunda that October before winning the sup-port of fellow Politburo members to oust him. The Soviet leader was recalled to Moscow, supposedly for an urgent meeting on agriculture, where he was presented with a fait accompli and told to resign.

Even though his KGB-ap-pointed bodyguard had given try to fight the decision. Instead he retired to a dacha in the country, where he died in obscurity in 1971 and was the only Soviet leader to be buried outside Red Square. Khrushchev's brief era of

liberalisation was quickly smothered during the long period of stagnation under Brezhnev's rule. However, his reforms did leave a powerful impression on a generation of young Russians. Many later played key roles in pushing through the radical changes introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev in the mid-1980s.

☐ Tbilisi: The grandson of Josef Stalin offered Georgia a gift on the 118th anniversary of the dictator's birth — a book containing names and pictures of Stalin's foes.

In an interview on Georgian television broadcast yesterday, Yevgeni Dzhugashvili. 59. a former Soviet army colonel, criticised journalists and historians who "denounce and deride" Stalin.

"We have decided to start a

'black book' of those who slander Stalin, accompanied Dzhugashvili, whose surname of the book will be stored at Stalin's museum in his home-

Kennedy ordered troops out of Vietnam

IN WASHINGTON

NEW evidence surfaced yes terday that President Kenne dy had been planning to pull American forces out of South Vietnam, a move that would have averted America's greatest military defeat.

Documents released from government archives include a memo written by General Maxwell Taylor, his chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in October 1963, seven weeks before the President's assassination in Dallas. The general told the joint chiefs to plan for the withdrawal of all US military personnel by the end of 1965. Indeed, they were to withdraw 1,000 of their troops by the end of 1963.

Kennedy's successor, Lyn don Johnson, feared that a withdrawal would expose him to accusations of being soft on communism when he ran for the presidency in his own right in 1964. He re-

versed Kennedy's strategy. The memo will add to controversy among historians over Kennedy's intentions in Vietnam. When the late Rob-ert Kennedy ran for president as an anti-war candidate in 1968, he assured supporters that his brother had been determined to avoid a land war in Asia.

But Ronald Spector, Washington history professor, argues that a decisive factor in keeping US troops in Vietnam may have been the assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem, President of South Vietnam, between the writing of the Maxwell memo and Kennedy's death.



Kennedy: determined to avoid land war in Asia

A misspent youth helps the joystick generation

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A GROWING body of research in America suggests that computer and video games - for long the bane of parents who believe that such gadgets do no more than rot their children's brains — may benefit the health of young

Scientists argue that these games, far from addling the heads of adolescents, help children to develop their skills of concentration, "visualisation" and problem-solving. According to a report in The

New York Times yesterday. some experts even believe that computer games are a contriputing factor in the steady rise in IQ scores in the industrial-In a study of about 200 students in America and Italy, published in The Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, researchers concluded that computer games "are not a waste of time". Instead, they should be seen as a form

of intellectual exercise. There is evidence also that a youth "misspent" in the company of computer games serves as useful grooming for a role in a high-technology economy. According to Patri-cia Greenfield, a Professor of Psychology at the University of California in Los Angeles, "the same skills used in computer games are basic techno-logical literacy skills, and these skills are extremely important in the modern world".

Another scholar, J. C. Herz,

from Harvard University, echoes that thesis. In her recent book. Joystick Nation: How Video Games Ate Our Quarters, Won Our Hearts, and Revired Our Minds, she wrote: "Video games are perfect training for life in fin de \$ siècle America, where daily existence demands the ability to parse 16 kinds of information being fired at you simultaneously from telephones, televisions, fax machines, pagers, personal digital assistants, voice messaging sys-tems, postal delivery, e-mail and the Internet.

"You have to recognise patterns in this whirl of data and you have to do it fast. Those to the joystick born have a builtin advantage."

Such statements would have been treated as heresy only five years ago by parents and teachers. Fears of a "mindless addiction" once led C. Everett Koop, a former US Surgeon-General, to say that American children were "into these

games body and soul" Yet those fears are now crumbling as evidence emerges that a childhood spent with computer games does not turn potential solid citizens into unproductive veg-etables. According to Idit Harel, founder of an Internet website for children, "the kids who grew up immersed in computer games are now in their 20s and they are for the most part a generation of bright, thoughtful and successful young people".



Computer ace: Matthew Broderick and Ally Sheedy pit their wits against the system in Wargames

Rabbi laundered drug money

brother yesterday admitted after channelling more than \$3 million in Colombian drug proceeds through a Brooklyn synagogue and yeshiva (religious school).

The men were charged with being part of a group of Orthodox Jews who launidered the \$3.5 million (£2.3

Dominican drug dealers in 1995 and 1996. By putting the cash through Congregation Eitz Chaim and Bobover Yeshiva and another organization, Chaim Shel Shulem, all located in the heavily Orthodox Jewish Borough Park section of Brooklyn, they were Swiss bank accounts and then

Mahir Reiss, 47, and his brother Abraham Reiss, 48, pleaded guilty in Brooklyn federal court.

Mahir faces up to four years' jail, while Abraham faces three years. The men, to be sentenced in March. hidden in bank and stock



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20th most stores will be open 10.00km-6.00pm. Discounts are off prices charged between 24th November and 25th December. "When you spend £1,000 or more on kindsen cabi

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Bosnian capital gives its heart to 'saviour' Clinton

almost mythical status among Bosnians yesterday by becoming the first American President to visit Sarajevo, their capital, and the most warmly received dignitary of the postwar period.

People such as the Pope and the U2 rock group have trod-den the same path this year, but the pomp, chaos and traffic jams surrounding their tours paled when compared with the Clinton roadshow.

The President, seen as the saviour of the Bosnian nation, the man who succeeded where Europe's leaders failed, did not disappoint, and gave a heartfelt speech in the national theatre that visibly moved many Bosnian politicians. Even Biljana Plavsic, the Bosnian Serb President and a stranger now reviled in the town of her youth, appeared to

be on the point of tears.

After listening to the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra, Mr Clinton, who was accompanied by his wife Hillary and daughter Chelsea, gave a tenminute speech that was relayed to hundreds outside and broadcast live on national television. "You have seen what war has wrought," he said, his voice croaking. "You know what peace can bring. Seize the chance before you. You can do nothing to change the past, but if you can let it go, you can do everything to build the future. The world is watching, the choice is yours. May you make the right one."

He was applauded by President Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Kresimir Zubak, the Croat member of the state presidency, both of whom he had praised. Conspicuously, he did not thank Momcilo Krajisnik, the Bosnian Serb member of the presidency,



Sarajevans turned out in force for a morale-boosting - and theatrical — first visit by a US President, Tom Walker reports

ceremony, although he did meet Mr Clinton earlier. The Clintons and their vast entourage, including Made-leine Albright, the Secretary of State, and Bob and Elizabeth Dole, touched down in a C17 transport, The Spirit of Bob Hope, in thick mist at Saraje-vo at 7.30am, their flight from Washington having been re-routed through Germany.

A huge security operation that had taken days of planning and rehearsing sprang into action, with snipers and

6 After Tito, he was the first to really support the idea of the Bosnian nation 🤊

anti-terrorism experts guarding every angle for a potential assassin. Helicopters whirred overhead and from farther above came the quiet drone of unseen Awacs spyplanes.

The initial port of call for the 30-vehicle motorcade was the national museum, where they were driven into a green tent, where photographers were occasionally invited to snap the American leader with the joint Bosnian presidency.

The column of gleaming

vehicles then made an unscheduled detour into the Old City, where to the crowd's delight the Clintons made a brief walkabout in the cathedral square and took a coffee

in the Bosnia corner café.
"He is up there like a god to
us, like Tito," said Hamdija Krestalica, who had brought with him his entire administration department from the central post office. "After Tito. he was the first one who really supported the idea of the

For some European observers the Clinton phenomenon was a galling experience. "It is a cosmetic exercise," said one French officer in Nato's Stabilisation Force, wincing at the sometimes chocolate-box na-ture of the speech. "I do not know who he is fooling -probably the Americans. I hope not the Bosnians. A colleague was equally acid: "It is appropriate that he gives out this stuff in a theatre."

Mr Clinton told his audience that "we gather in the dawn after a long darkness" and urged the politicians star-ing at him from the front row to heed the Dayton peace accord, now two years old but hardly implemented.

"Those who rise to that responsibility will have the full support of the internationcommunity: those who shirk it will isolate themselves," he said in a pointed reference to Mrs Plavsic, the one Serb leader apparently prepared to do business with Washington and the West.



President Clinton in Sarajevo yesterday with his daughter, Chelsea, and wife, Hillary. Later, the family flew north to visit American troops

Milosevic: relief as so-

in Egypt and Algeria have done - visitors to Bethlehem

have been hit by the draconian

Israeli closures imposed after

September, all tourist buses

were barred from passing the

huge Israeli roadblock that

straddles the entrance road

some two miles from the Church of the Nativity," said

Michel Kreitem, one of a

Mr Kreitem, 62, is owner of

group of Bethlehem hoteliers.

Bethlehem's leading hotel, the

Star, which by what he calls "a

minor miracle" has all its 72

rooms let on Christmas eve:

for every other day of the year,

because of the widespread

fears of terrorism and even

another Israeli-Arab war, oc-

cupancy rates do not rise

only guests were going to be a group of 20 intrepid pilgrims

from London who, unlike everybody else, did not cancel in the wake of the breakdown

in the peace process and the

Luxor massacre," Mr Kreitem

said. "Then out of the blue,

staff and visiting family from

the Chilean Embassy — all Roman Catholics — suddenly

wanted 110 rooms, I gave them

every one I had and sent the

Mr Kreitem, whose family owns the hotel jointly with that

of his wife Mary, who fol-lowed in biblical footsteps and

travelled south from their

native Nazareth in 1948, is

pessimistic about any improvement in the mood of

despair gripping the managers of Bethlehem's 11 hotels

and hospices. Tourism is a factor of the political situation," he said, waving a sheaf of recent cancellations.

The absence of seasonal cheer has been reinforced by

the lack of a proper Christmas tree in Manger Square, domi-

nated by a tasteless artificial creation supplied by a local

businessman, while some coloured lights have been strung haphazardly over a fir growing in the garden of the Orient

Palace Hotel next to the 4thcentury Church of the

"Last year the Israelis im-

pounded our 46ft tree from the

people of Finland in the docks

until three hours before the

Christmas Eve ceremonies were about to start," said Hanner Nasser, the Mayor of Bethlehem. They said it might have disease, which

was nonsense. We will not be humiliated again, so we have refused all offers of trees from

Nativity.

others to another hotel."

'Until a few days ago our

above 25 per cent.

For more than 15 days this

every spicide attack.

Serb hardliner defeated at fourth ballot

BY TOM WALKER

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC looked to have earned himself more breathing space yesterday as his socialist candidate elebrated victory in the run-off for the Serbian presidency.

A collective sigh of relief was breathed by diplomats and Western capitals, where the resurgence of extreme Serbian nationalism, under the maverick lawyer and one-time paramilitary leader Vojislav Seselj, was viewed with horror. The election commission said that Milan Milutinovic, the former foreign minister. won 58.6 per cent of votes polled on

Sunday, compared with 38.1 for Mr Seselj. Turnout had been just above the 50 per cent level necessary for validity the flaw in Mr Seself's apparent victory last month. Mr Milutinovic said last night: "We have finally finished these elections. Now it is time to get to work."

Mr Seselj, whose share of the vote collapsed, claimed that widespread fraud was behind the socialist victory. He blamed ballot-stuffing and intimidation of his party's representatives in the southern region of Kosovo. The majority Albanian population there rarely votes, but turnout was mysteriously high.

an election that gave them a choice between Mr Milosevic's socialism and Mr Seselj's recipe of hard work and xenophobia, appeared to have voted largely to stop the financial drain of the constant re-runs — it was the fourth time they had been asked to vote in three

Television probably played a part in Mr Seselj's downfall. The state channel broadcast a damning portrait of him an hour before the election media blackout. It showed selected highlights of Mr Seselj's parliamentary years, including him beating up opponents and pulling

Bethlehem pilgrims find no room at the Star hotel

AND she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddiing clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in

THE same fate is likely to befall the millions of Christian pilgrims expected here to mark the rapidly approaching millennium as the illequipped West Bank town has only 900 hotel rooms, and plans an increase of only 600

Expectations of hosting four million people during the mil-lennium year are a "joke". Amir Dajani, a hotel management lecturer at Bethlehem University, told European officials attending a Destination Christmas conference held to coincide with the launching of the logo for Bethlehem 2000, the bid to capitalise on the traditional birthplace of Jesus, six miles south of Jerusalem.

In addition to the woeful lack of infrastructure and accommodation in the town, its tourism industry has been affected by successive crises arising from Islamic suicide attacks. Israeli closures and the disastrous knock-on effect Luxor, in which 58 tourists



were slaughtered. With tourment is running at more than

because we are Arabs. They

Hanna Nasser, left,

the town Mayor,

is finding it hard

Walker reports

ism this month in Bethlehem down an estimated 20 per cent on December 1996, itself a bad year because of the bus bombings which killed dozens of Israelis in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, there is an atmosphere of deep gloom hanging over the town where visitors are pounced on by sellers of olivewood trinkets and unemploy-

"The few tourists who have so far arrived this Christmas period are all frightened," said Lieutenant Maynal al-Sous. 28, one of the few women serving in the uniformed tourist police of Yassir Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority. "All the tourists who come here are frightened

to feel festive,

Christopher

automatically think we are extremists and that we will kill them. But that is not the case at all - they will be safe here." The unease has been increased by a spate of stoning and shooting incidents near Bethlehem in recent days in

which one Israeli was serious-ly wounded and three others were injured when their car overturned under repeated attack by Palestinians hurling rocks. Palestinian feelings have been inflamed by Sunday's claim by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, that the West Bank - land taken from Jordan in 1967 — "is part of Israel

In addition to lear of attack by terrorists - who have yet to target foreigners in the way that Islamic fundamentalists

Michel Kreitem, who is lucky to have no vacancies at his hotel for Christmas

Negev jobless | Italian call to scrap US bases stage protest

Jerusalem: Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Min-ister, under pressure to put job-creation ahead of peace. resterday visited the southern Negevarea, where the jobless have been protesting for days

(Ross Dunn writes).
In the town of Ofaqim, protesters called on the Goverument to stop funding the Palestinian Authority. For days, demonstrators have been burning tyres outside the mayor's office. Mr Netanyahu outlined a plan to create 300 new jobs but his move was undermined by news that a textile factory was to move its production to Jordan.

with demands from its hardleft parliamentary allies to scrap all American bases on Italian soil. Armando Cossutta, the

party which holds the balance of power in the Italian Lower House, told La Stampa it was "unacceptable" that a "foreign power" had bases over which Italy had little or no control. "There is no justification for the bases. There is no threat from the Eastern bloc any

THE Italian centre left Government of Professor Romano
Prodi was yesterday faced

more. Furthermore, there is Italy were drawn up in the late
no guarantee that the United 1950s and had never been
States might not use its bases made public or debated by the

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

for purposes which are at odds with our own foreign policy." he said. Government officials emphasise that Italy is fully committed to Nato and the president of Communist Refoundation, the Marxist

maintenance of Western security in the Mediterreanean and the Middle East. But they also admit that the Government is preparing the ground for a review of the 40-year-old "secret treaties" governing US and Nato facilities. Officials said the conditions under

Italian parliament

Italy considers itself a linchpin of Western security interests in the Mediterranean at a time when the East-West conflict has been replaced by Balkans instability and fear of the impact on southern Europe of Islamic fundamentalism in hotspots such as Algeria. Nato has hesitated to intervene in places such as Algeria, Kosovo or Cyprus, and has left the Italians to raise and lead a multinational which the bases operate in force for Albania.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

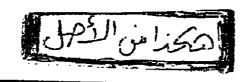


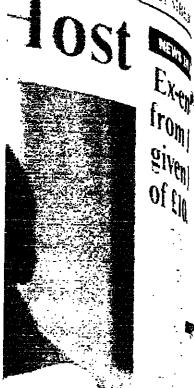
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THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

French police face new riots over shootings

From Adam Sage in paris

FRENCH police were last night braced for a fresh outbreak of violence after a demonstration in support of one of two young men shot their violent protest. dead by officers last week.

The shootings sparked three days of riots in a suburb of Lyons and the outskirts of Paris, highlighting what President Chirac refers to as France's "social fracture".

In La Duchère, a district of Lyons, youths set cars alight and attacked police and firefighters after Fabrice Fernandez, a 24-year-old father of three died in the local police station last week

According to witnesses, Jean Cavalho, 40, an officer who has aiready been sanctioned twice for professional misconduct, pointed M Fernandez's own shotgun in his face and pulled the trigger, not realising it was loaded.

In an attempt to defuse local anger, the Lyons prosecution service altered the charges against M Cavalho from manslaughter to murder, and Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the Interior Minister, called for

But with the victim's family and friends organising a pro-

By ADAM SAGE

FRENCH sport is facing in-

creasing controversy over a

decision to remove the cock,

the country's national symbol,

The move has split the

sporting establishment and

infuriated some of its top

athletes, one of whom

Fiercely independent, stub-

born and with a loud voice, le

coq represents qualities that

the French see as essential and

historic parts of their nature.

They are enchanted by its re-

fusal to stop crowing, regard-

British bulldog was an unoffi-

cial national symbol for hun-

dreds of years before being

made the official Olympic

mascot in 1908. Virtually all

national teams have at one

time worn an embroidered

136

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The Gallic equivalent of the

less of what is going on.

described it as outrageous.

from the Olympic logo.

test march last night, the authorities said that they ex-pected the rioters to defy M Chevenement and continue

In Dammerie-les-Lys, east of Paris, two policemen were injured in the early hours yesterday when a gang of youths threw petrol hombs from the roofs of high-rise

Riot police responded by firing teargas grenades, some of which blew out the windows of flats, forcing residents to flee into the street. Violence in Dammerie-les-

Lys exploded after police shot dead a local teenager, Abdelkader Bouziane, as he drove at speeds of up to 90mph through one police roadblock and tried to force a second last

The 16-year-old, in his mother's Volkswagen Golf, had driven through red lights and failed to stop when requested by police in a car, officers said.

His death brought dozens of people on to the streets for what is now a familiar sight in the poor, crime and unemployment-ridden suburbs of French cities: a confrontation between police and youths.

Sporting strife as Gallic

teams give cock the bird

The differences this time are the scale of the violence ad apparent determination o: 'te rioters to continue their action.

"But there are some factors that are always the sa. ne." said Hervé Vieillard Baron, a sociologist specialising in suburban decay. "Young people who have not worked for years are ready to explode. Family breakdown and personal problems combine with unemployment."

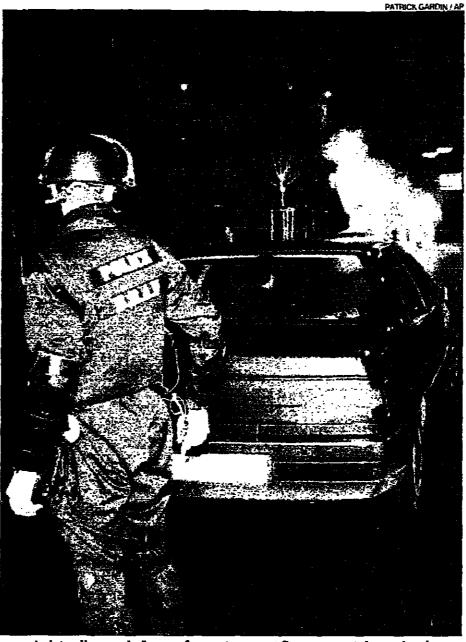
the rioters in Dammerie-les-Lys were mostly of Arab origin, highlighting the diffi-culties of ethnic integration in French society. The violence comes amid a

Commentators noted that

fierce political row after a commitment by Lionel Jospin. the Prime Minister, to treat immigrants with

Centre-right politicians said that he had effectively abandoned the fight against illegal immigration. However, other observers pointed out that M Fernandez

was of French origin and the rioters in La Duchère were white. The Lyons suburb is poor, but does not have a large



A riot policeman in Lyons after protesters set fire to a car at the weekend

Sumatran 'Dr Death'

Jakarta: The trial opened yesterday of Indonesia's "Dr Death", a self-proclaimed sorcerer who has been charged with killing 42

Ahmad Suradji allegedly confessed to the police that he murdered the women and drank their saliva in an attempt to increase his black

Hundreds of people flocked to the court in the north Sumatran town of Lubukpakam to see the chained and beavily guarded 42-year-old traditional healer from the nearby village of Sei Semayang. His killing spree is said to

have began in 1984 after Suradji was told by bis father in a dream that his sorcerer's vers would be greatly enhanced if he could drink the saliva of 70 dead women.

spread feeling in France that the country's capital is falling behind its British counterpart. "London explodes,

Paris sleeps", is the headline in this

Joel Fleury, owner of the Grand Colbert brasserie in Paris, said the trend

was the result of an economy unable to

L'Evénement du Jeudi.

the magazine

The long and short of US divorce case

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A MULTIMILLIONAIRE, 6ft 8in tall, is suing his 5ft 4in wife for divorce, accusing her of subjecting him to cruel, inhuman treatment and physical and verbal abuse. Examples of "cruelty" cited in court documents include a "forced circumcision" and a "painful

Bjorn Aaserod, a Norwegian-born investment banker, also accuses his wife Michelle. a petite Georgia belle, of tricking him into a "sham marriage" to milk him of much of his wealth. Mrs Aaserod, nine years

younger than her 40-year-old husband, has filed a counterclaim in the Manhattan Supreme Court, accusing him of being a sexual pervert and

Her terms for a divorce

offer growth and employment. "The middle classes, even the upper middle

classes, have a tight budget. They want

value for money . . . a good welcome, a

good atmosphere and service and a

However, other restaurateurs said their troubles sprang from a failure to

forge a path between Gallic traditions

correct meal," he said.

the Upper East Side of New York - worth at least \$4 million (£2.5 million) - two Rolls-Royces, and half of her husband's fortune, thought to amount to about \$40 million. She has also asked Judge Walter Tolub, who is deciding the case, to award her \$55,000 a month until a settlement is

ple's six-storey townhouse in

Mrs Aaserod says she could not accept her husband's sexual perversities, which she claims included frequent sorties to brothels and strip clubs, and so many calls to sex lines that she had to block access to the numbers from their home.

Mr Aaserod describes his wife as a "gold-digger". He is seeking court protection from her, alleging that she has often threatened to kill him.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Ankara-Athens clash on spying

expulsions of diplomats in a spy row that signals a worsening of their strained relations. Ankara said it had asked Athens to withdraw Elstratios Haralambus, a diplomat at the Greek Consulate in Istanbul, for "activities incompatible with his

status", the diplomatic euphemism for spying.

The Turkish press had accused Mr Haralambus of gathering information on military installations and aiding Kurdish guerrillas. Greece denied the accusation and said it would expel a Turkish diplomat of equal rank. The countries have been at loggerheads recently about Cyprus, military tension in the Aegean Sea and Turkey's faltering attempts to join the European Union (Reuters)

Rebel attack leaves 30 dead

At least 30 soldiers were killed, dozens injured and some taken hostage when left-wing guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) ambushed a remote southern army camp yesterday (Gabriella Gamini writes). Some 200 FARC rebels attacked the Cerro de Patascoy army camp at dawn while soldiers slept, according to an SOS message. The attack was believed to be in retaliation for violence by paramilitary groups backed by the army.

Jurists urge Tibet vote

Geneva: In a major setback to Beijing, the International Commission of Jurists declared that Chinese-ruled Tibet was "under alien subjugation" and called for a UN-run referendum to decide its status. In a 365-page report, the leading world jurists said Chinese Communist Party leaders had declared "total war" on the exiled Dalai Lama, and were also threatening to eradicate his influence. (Reuters)

Bond in wake of 'Titanic'

New York: Titanic, at \$200 million (£120 million) the most expensive film ever made, grossed an estimated \$27.6 million at the box office over its debut weekend in America, earning more than Tomorrow Never Dies, the new James Bond movie, also making its opening (Tunku Varadarajan writes). This is the first time a Bond film has failed to top ticket sales on its debut. The normally invincible 007 made \$26 million.

Students jeer ex-Presidents

Seoul: Two corrupt former South Korean Presidents walked out of jail to jeers from students and cheers from their rich neighbours (Jennifer Veale writes). Police fired teargas to break up students chanting "No freedom for Chun [Doohwan] and Roh [Tae-woo]". Neighbours gave the pair a Far East worries, page 22

Sharif rescues injured

Islamabad: Nawaz Sharif, right, the Pakistani Prime Minister. pulled three injured men from their wrecked vehicle after a fatal motorway crash on the Islamabad-Lahore motorway, the Nation newspaper reported. It said Mr Sharif instructed the driver of his official car to take the injured to Chakwal District Hospital, 20 miles away. One person died in the accident in which a vehicle hit a side wall. (Reuters)



Golden Gate death plunge

San Francisco: A girl, aged two, sightseeing on the Golden Gate Bridge with her parents and brother, aged four, slipped through a 91 in gap between the railing and pavement and plunged 180ft to her death. Her father failed in desperate attempts to reach her as she lay on a construction site. She was airlifted to a children's hospital, but died. (AP)



French dining: more abstemious

The World Cup cock

cock on their shirts and supporters often take live ones to international matches. French television viewers never tire of seeing footage of a policeman chasing a Gallic cock around Twickenham at an England-France rugby match in the

Jean Talbot, a senior French

the cock was "the most remarkable animal because it carries on singing even when it is standing in dirt". But the French National

Olympic Committee has decided to abandon the cock and replace it by a logo represent-ing the five Olympic rings and the word "France". The committee said the bird was in decline, with only 20 of the country's 93 national sports teams now using it. The decision, made last

week, sparked an angry back-lash when made public at the weekend. Alain Mimoun, a former French marathon runner, declared: "For me, the cock is the true symbol of France. What they have done is outrageous, disgusting. The bird, however, still has

future as a national symbol. The mascot for next year's football World Cup in France is a Gallic cock. sports administrator, said that

CULTURAL conservatism and econom-

ic difficulties have combined to produce

a deepening crisis in French gastrono-

my, according to a survey published yesterday. The crisis has been described

as symptomatic of a wider malaise in

According to the survey, published by Le Figaro, 10 per cent fewer French people visited restaurants this year.

Citing figures compiled by Gira Conseil.

a specialist consultancy, the newspaper

said those who did eat out spent less

money, with only a few prepared to pay

more than Fr200 (£20) for a three-course

The survey added weight to a wide-

meal with wine and coffee.

French society.

on trial

women over the past 13 years.

serial adulterer.

include all rights to the cou-

Parisians desert restaurants as London turns the tables

themselves."

and modernisation. Jean-Paul Bucher. chairman of the Groupe Flo chain of brasseries, said: 'Restaurants are like the rest of society. They are trying to find

After the nouvelle cuisine of the 1980s. chefs have returned to traditional recipes this decade, with such classic French dishes as pot-au-feu. But at a time when their counterparts elsewhere in the world are engaging in culinary adventure. Gallic cuisine can seem boring and

insular, according to some food experts. Kazuto Matsusaka, a Japanese-born chef who worked in Los Angeles for

more than 20 years before taking over at

the Buddha Bar, one of Paris's most

other country like this. But there is a sense in which they are too weighed down by their own culture and traditions. They have to open up and look at what's going on in the rest of the world." French restaurants will serve about

rants, said: "The French have an

extraordinary history and there is no

2.5 billion meals this year, according to the survey, far more than those in most other countries, and the average French person will spend Fr2.850 on eating out. But in 1990 restaurants provided almost three billion meals. The figure has since fallen, with a particularly sharp drop

i. Ir neighi

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Adam Sage reports on increasing evidence that

restaurateurs across the Channel are suffering

from a shaky economy and lack of imagination



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An anorexic at the feast

Christmas is fraught with stress for children with eating disorders. Moira Petty reports on how parents can cope in a time of crisis

ew of us need to be prompted to eat, drink and be merry at Christmas. For those suffering from eating disor-ders, though, the festive season can be a time of crisis.

The succession of rich meals and tempting snacks may only harden the resolve of the anorexic to avoid eating, while the bulimic may be plunged into a binge-vomit cycle.

Dysfunctional family relationships are at the heart of many eating disorders, so the traditional Christmas get together, which can switch rap-idly from an occasion of celebration to one of confrontation, may be the cause of additional stress.

For the parents of children and teenagers suffering from anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa, Christmas and new year festivities will be fraught with anxiety. Those whose children are faddy eaters or fixated on dieting will be wondering how they can persuade them to eat normally

without exacerbating the problem or spoiling celebratory meals for the rest of the family. Dr Dee Dawson.

medical director of Rhodes Farm Clinic in Mill Hill, northwest London. which treats children with eating disorders, offers the following advice on getting such child-ren — and the

whole family — Christmas. Adults should look at the mixed messages that they send out about their own attitude to food. Christmas treats should be enjoyed without protestations of guilt. and gifts of food given without apology, not: "I've brought chocolates, is that OK?"

We should also show children, by our own example, what it is normal to eat. At Christmas that probably means more than we will eat at other times of the year. Many adults will take a tinv slice of cake, but "pick bits off in private, all afternoon", so that the child is given a false view of what the adult is Nor can you expect a child to eat roast potatoes if you're having a jacket potato without butter," she says.

Dr Dawson recommends not buying diet or reducedcalorie foods. If the child has eaten a hearty Christmas lunch and asks for a low-fat voghurt, offer a non-diet voghurt. They're either hungry or they're not," she says. We're becoming a nation of health-food fanatics. In the old days, nobody was afraid of tucking into a good meal."

Where anorexics are concerned, Dr Dawson is wary of giving "simplistic" advice. Therapy for the whole family is the mainstay when treating anorexics. But Dr Dawson advocates getting the anorexic child eating straight away and not being frightened of upsetting the Christmas bonhomie. We don't have the right to let children stay underweight.

Feeding them will stop them getting ill, but psychologically they will still be anorexics. she cautions.

A feature of the families of most anorexics, says Dr Dawson, is that they avoid conflict at all costs and never express their true feelings. "A lot of treatment units will tell you not to worry about the eating until they've got the mind sorted out. We don't think you can afford to wait. Our approach is to be very confrontanonal and firm.

No matter that it is Christmas Day, the anorexic must be made to sit at the table until the plate is cleared. "Don't ger into this battle until you know you're going to win. I've sat with patients all night until they've eaten.

"If you haven't been firm before, spell it out to them. Say Believe me, things have changed'. You mustn't give in halfway through the meal and say 'Just eat two of the potatoes'." It is normal at Christmas

'In the

old days,

nobody was

afraid of

tucking into

a good meal'

lunch to have a mings and puddings, but the anorexic must not be allowed any options. "You must serve their lunch and tell them that that is what they are eating. If they are thin, they need food. not

knowledges that this may make Christmas meals uncomfortable for family and guests, but that is a small price to pay when faced with a life-threatening illness. One concession may be to limit the numbers at the table. as anorexics find it hard to eat in front of people. Everyone present at the

celebrations should be told of the problem and the strategy to be adopted. "Get them all on your side, or they'll undermine you. Grandma might say 'l didn't make you eat all your potatoes when you were little'. or siblings will cry 'Don't be mean, Mum, it's Christmas'." Getting the anorexic in-

volved in the preparation of idea. Anorexics are obsessed with all things culinary, and some very young children are allowed to take charge of family meals. "Don't let them in the kitch-

en," says Dr Dawson. "If you

let them assist you with the cooking, they'll have a fit about how much butter or cream is going in." At Christmas, anorexics feel under greater stress because it is harder to practise their usual food-avoidance tech-

niques, throwing away their packed lunch or claiming that they had eaten earlier. But just because it is Christmas, do not trust them or believe them when it comes to issues of They must not be allowed a

long list of foods that they daim to dislike. At Dr Dawson's Rhodes Farm Clinic. patients are allowed three



It is normal to have a choice at Christmas lunch but the anorexic must not be allowed options even though it may make the meal uncomfortable for others

do with catories and not real dislike."

The family should maintain the normal rituals of crackerpulling and joke-telling at Christmas, but should be aware that the severely underweight child "will have no joie de vivre". They are supersensitive to disharmony in the family, so parents and relatives should avoid the niggling rows that sometimes erupt over Christmas. But arguments in which family members speak their minds and clear the air are healthy. Many anorexics secretly believe that shouting at their parents in anger, or slamming a door, will have tragic consequences, such as a parent

having a heart attack. Anorexia is a battle for control that can be averted by strong parenting. But Dr Dawson recommends that if other areas. "Let them think they have some control over other parts of their lives. Let them choose what they wear to a Christmas party, or watch a lot of seasonal television - it's not going to harm them."

Christmas may be a time when parents spot the signs of anorexia because it is harder to disguise when the child cannot escape to eat alone in their own room. Signs include playing with their food, eating all of one item before moving on to another item, cutting the food into tiny pieces, removing the middle from pies, mashing food across the plate.

The average age of anorexics in Dr Dawson's unit is 13 and 14, although she has treated sufferers as young as six. Bulimics, who overeat and then purge themselves of the food or fast, tend to be in their late teens. The larger amounts

foods that they will not eat: children can be encouraged to "But not chocolate and chips and butter because that is to be allowed some leeway in an of food around at Christmas foods on offer. Few teenagers actually lose weight, says Dr in a range of sizes. Fashion Dawson, so it may be all talk models may be thin, but Page the kitchen alone with the leftovers. "They will eat everything in sight, but there is so much food around that nobody will question it."

> ulimics should be made to go to the lavatory before they sit down to Christmas lunch so they will not need to go directly afterwards. Parents should be aware that gastric emptying in bulimics is often delayed, and they may vomit up to 212 hours after the meal. They should be accompanied to the lavatory, the door left ajar, and the pan inspected before flushing as they are able to vomit silently.

Only 4 per cent of schoolchildren are truly overweight, but 60 per cent of teenagers talk about dieting. This may be more pronounced at Christmas because of the fattening and no action. Even slightly podgy children do not need to diet, and puppy fat is a normal feature of puberty. Dr Dawson points out. "I wouldn't be concerned about a teenager who decided not to eat for two days. But if Christmas Day came and they were still not

this is not normal." Regular menstruation is a sign that all is well, while younger children should be weighed if parents are concerned. Many children are preoccupied with their body image. When buying a Christmas party outfit, they may ask: "Do my legs look fat?"

eating, I would worry, because

'I tend to say to my lot This is a really boring conversation. I don't worry about the size of my friends' thighs, but how much fun they are. I make it clear that I don't want to get into such a conversation. You

Three girls aren't and men like this variety," says Dr Dawson. Exercise equipment would

not be a suitable gift for a child trying unnecessarily to lose weight. A gentle walk with the family after lunch is sensible. but not walking until the dog has no legs left", says Dr Dawson. "You should padlock a child's bicycle if they're going to be silly."

Faddy eaters can be a nuisance, but they are not medi-cally at risk. Dr Dawson says: I'd work hard to give them a balanced diet, but some children thrive on beans on toast. They usually grow out of it."

Parents should remember that they are the models for the child's eating habits. If, by Boxing Day, they are already planning their new year dieting regime, they should think about the effect this may have

Cash rolls in for Dorah

Generous readers bring hope to the brave little girl who defied death

LAST week The Times told the story of Dorah, a South African girl who was horribly burnt as a baby, abandoned by her mother and who may now lose her eyes. The response has been overwhelming. By yesterday - just six days after Bronwen Jones's article appeared - readers had sent £41.000 to help Dorah.

The reaction has been so generous that steps are being taken to set up a trust to help the three-year-old child Bronwen found in Springs hospital, near Johannesburg. The money will be used to get Dorah to a doctor who can help, or to get a doctor to her, and to train and pay for the carers she will need during

Several doctors have already expressed an interest in Dorah and are being sent her



Our article touched hearts

medical details. However. Bronwen and the trust would still like to hear from any other doctor who may be able to help. South African doctors feel that they have no option but to remove Dorah's eyes to prevent further infection. They hope that a doctor somewhere else in the world may have the knowledge and skills necessary to save her

As well as sending money, many Times readers have written letters and sent emessages Bronwen has found profoundly moving.

"When I left Britain six years ago. I thought it was a heartless place selfish and insular," she says. "This response has made me feel like hugging everyone. We need people like Dorah to remind us of our basic humanity."

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 Donations to help Dorah can be sent to Victor de Gray, Barclays Premier, to Rose Lane, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2UR, or paid into any bank to account 30299065, sort code 20-17-92. Cheques should be made payable to A Charity Appeal Fund for Dorah Moekena. Bronwen Jones can be contacted by email: riuafrica@icon.co.za, A SKY TV news report on Dorah can be seen tomorrow between 7 and 7.15pm and 8 and 8.15pm

dyson

DYSON APPLIANCES LIMITED

Between August 1994 and December 1996, Dyson Appliances Ltd published a leaflet entitled The Story of the Dyson Dual Cyclone and, during 1996, published a book entitled 'Doing a Dyson'. These publications wrongly stated that, in earlier patent litigation, "the American courts found in [Dyson's] favour, acknowledging that his patents had been infringed". This statement is false and is hereby retracted.

In recent publications, other parties have made statements concerning the outcome of the litigation. Any statements which might imply that Amway was found guilty of patent infringement are false. In fact, the litigation was settled.

Dyson Appliances Ltd and James Dyson, Chairman of Dyson Appliances Ltd, regret any negative effects these inaccurate statements may have had on Amway, its affiliates, customers, and independent distributors.

Don't get tired and emotional

ather Christmas is not the only person who is up all night over the Christmas holiday. Unlike most revellers, he can sleep in next day, whereas partygoers will have to pretend to be bright and jolly.
Insomnia ranks with hang-

overs and indigestion as one of the major causes of emotional tension over the holiday

Families may not be as extended as they once were. but even now they are large enough to cause overcrowding in most people's homes. A night on a mattress on the floor is not conducive to sleep, and not the ideal way to prepare for a long and sometimes tense day.

Sleep may also be affected by the coughs and tears of children who have failed to settle into strange surroundings.

The British National Formulary, a joint publication of the British Medical Association and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, offers advice and details of all medicines for doctors. It divides insomnia into three classes - transient, short term and chronic.

Transient insomnia describes sleeplessness in those who normally sleep well but find their sleep pattern is disturbed by travel or noisy fellow guests, whether crying

MEDICINE DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

children or snoring cousins. those whose sleeplessness is related to some passing emotional worry or temporary

Chronic insomniacs rarely sleep well, whatever the circumstances. The problem may arise from depression a symptom that occurs in 75 per cent of all those suffering from psychiatric disease, whatever the precise diag-

It is also a side effect of many drugs and at Christmas time in particular can stem from over-indulgence in alcohol. thereby inducing sweat-

Sleeping pills may be useful to treat transient or short-term insomnia. They should not be used for more than two or three weeks at a time, and even then should be taken intermittently. Sleeping pills are of little use to chronic insomniacs other than to give them the occasional good night, although at Christmas they may feel they deserve

such a treat. Barbiturates can be addictive and are rarely prescribed. Even those who take them should never mix them with alcohol. The short and medium-acting benzo-diazepines. including Temazepam, have fallen into disrepute because they are subject to abuse.

Rohypnol. sometimes pre-scribed in Britain to induce sleep at odd hours, for example when flying, is the latest to be tried and found wanting by the media, but there is scant evidence to suggest that it is a commonly abused drug in

this country.
It is not available on the NHS in Britain, but overseas it is taken as a sleeping pill by a million people every day and more open to abuse.

Its rapid elimination from the system makes it difficult to detect in criminal cases, but a detailed forensic analysis in America of a sample of 500 cases of drug-assisted sexual assault found traces of Rohypnol in only I per cent of cases — and in none of these was it the only drug given to

lcohol was found to be the reason for the woman's incapacity to refuse sex in 20 times as many cases as Rohypnoi, and cannabis was almost as often to blame. Cocaine was also

found in conjunction with other drugs. So far there have not been any proven cases of Rohypnol-associated rape in this country, and in future it will be more difficult to disguise. An extra ingredient is to be added to the tablet that will

make it less soluble and will

turn any drink royal blue. A more common reason for not prescribing short or intermittent benzodiazepines is that they produce some residual ill effects the following day, and long-acting benzodiazepines such as Mogadon and Dalmane cause drowsiness.

Sleeping pills of choice are now Zimovane zopiclone and its rival Stilnoct zolpidem. Both drugs are less likely to cause hangovers or sleepiness on waking or to give such heavily dream-laden sleep as the older sleeping pills.

Any form of sleep-inducing medicine is considered medically undesirable in children. However, the situation can be so dire that some doctors prescibe Phenergan, an antihistamine, but they cause bad temper in a high number of

I have always preferred Atarax, another anti-histamine that is usually prescribed for children with severe itching. The drug is not given to bables under six

ARTS

a newly revealed Renaissance image of the Nativity Pages 28-29

Richard Cork on



NOTICE TO BORROWERS

Portman Building Society announces changes to its variable mortgage interest rate for existing borrowers with effect from and including 8 January 1998, as follows:-

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- Portman Mortgage Services Limited mortgage rate increased by 0.29% gross. Where notice is required, the change to the rate of interest will take effect on expiry of the notice period. The period

of notice will commence on 8 January 1998. This notice does not affect the following:-

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- Loans that were completed on or after 8 December 1997.



Think you can pull women? Pull the other one

Most men are dreadful at chatting up women. But a study of female body language can put an end to flirting with disaster, says Joe Joseph

i there. Hotlips! I noticed you the minute you turned over to this page, and I was wondering if maybe you and I could go some place quiet and chat a little about why it is that men have become so hopeless at flirting and ... hey, where are you going? You haven't fin-ished your drink. Can I call you tomorrow?

You see how had it's got? And so quickly, too. It wasn't that long ago that a well-brought-up man wouldn't dream of approaching a strange woman at a party with a sentence as clumsy as: "You're the only girl here I fancy jumping into bed with!" — because he would know instinctively that the proper form in such circumstances is: "You're the only girl with whom I fancy jumping into bed!"But don't blame men for this sad slip in standards. They have become so scared of saying the wrong thing that many of them no longer say anything at all.

Nowadays most men, according to scientists at Stanford University in California, are just too shy to furt. Kate Fox, director of the Social issues Research Centre in Oxford, says that part of this overzealous political correctness, which has come out of bewitched are now merely bothered and bewildered by the whole flirting ritual. Some of them are so bewildered that they have completely lost their

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أحيل بس



Men have become so scared of saying the wrong thing that they no longer say anything

Maxim asked its readers what they felt when they saw women laughing nearly a third thought the women were laughing at them. Not even with, mind you, but at.

Naturally, all this implies that men were once the top dogs of flirting and have only recently lost the hang of the thing: this partly explains why they have been so joited by the turning of the tables. But the truth is that men have never really had the hang of the flirting thing. It is women who flirt.

Certainly, it is women who

end of a party: others see no reason to limit their options this way: A man, if desperate enough, will flirt with a

Women, having started flirt-ing but then decided that they have mischosen their target, will retreat gracefully. Men, on the other hand, having located a responsive woman, are pretty much impossible to deter. Nothing puts them off. If a woman starts chatting up a handsome man but then finds that he sweeps out pigsties for a living, she might think twice. Compare this to the average man who - on discovering that the woman he is trying hard to seduce regularly robs banks while armed with an Uzi — will barely miss a beat ("Oh, so tell me, what are you doing after you rob Barclays next Tuesday? Fancy some dinner?").

Of course, one big genetic handicap for men is their inability to interpret a woman's sexual body language. If she is attractive enough, men are so blind with desire they can barely register her verbal language (Woman: "See this knife? Unless you get lost, I'm going to poke it into your "Man: "Oh, is it sharp enough? Shall I fetch you a sharpener from the kitchen?")

This is why most men have such a sorry hit rate. Women think they have flirted successwoman who is flirting assidu-

Women that men up with a series of body signals involving eyes and arms - signals which, when executed expertly, are devastatingly effective Research Centre found that only 8 per cent of British men have any confidence at all in their flirting abilities? Wait, there's something even more embarrassing: 90 per cent of men can't even tell if they are

being chatted up.

The explanation for this probably lies in the fact that men fondly assume that chatting up involves at least a minimal level of conversation, whereas women chat up men with a series of body signals involving eyes and arms signals which, when executed expertly, are devastatingly effective even though they are barely detectable by the hureal, luv?"). Both of these, however, are still a long way from the three words that American researchers found fell most sweetly on a woman's ear, which turned out to be "You've lost weight". This is why women prefer to flirt with their mouths closed, in the hope that men might learn to do the same.

he trouble is that men misunderstand almost all the vocabulary of female body language. Here, for example, are some familiar female gestures and what they mean to men and women

(a) Hesitant smile. Woman's

(c) Skirt hike. Woman's profitable approach. As a first meaning: Damn! My tights have laddered. Man's interpretation: She fancies a threesome with me and Simon. (d) Hand hold. Woman's

meaning: I'm beginning to feel woozy. I hope I don't throw up on the jacket of this jerk I'm leaning against. Man's interpretation: She fancies me. (e) Raise eyebrows. Wom-

an's meaning: My left contact has popped out. Man's interpretation: She fancies me. (f) Feign vomiting as man approaches. Woman's meaning: Don't bother coming another step nearer, mister. lesbian.

step, men should do the following questionnaire to assess how much remedial treatment they actually require: I. I admire a woman who

looks . . . (a) for the good points in others; (b) to her laurels; (c) both ways before crossing a busy road; (d) available 2. I think that it's best to tell a woman ... (a) that you like to kiss on the first date; (b) that

you are a married man; (c) that

you like the scent she is wearing; (d) by her chest size 3. I tend to be most successful with girls who are ... (a) lawyers; (b) teachers; nurses: (d) desperate

6. Many men when they see a woman wearing a seethrough blouse stare straight at her breasts. I know ... (a) this is ungentlemanly; (b) this is vulgar; (c) this embarrasses her; (d) I certainly do

7. Because of my dress sense, I often appear in . . . (a) Armani; (b) Versace; (c) Calvin Klein: (d) women's nightmares 8. It doesn't bother me if the

girl I'm chatting up is not ...

(a) under 25: (b) a virgin; (c) pretty; (d) awake

But don't go thinking that just because a man might be faulty at flirting, he doesn't

have someone who is very special to him, someone he refers to, romantically, as "the girl of my dreams". Sometimes she's a blonde; sometimes a woman he first set eves on in the office lift: sometimes she's the woman from the dry cleaner's: but whoever she is, she's usually unaware that he



Actress Teri Hatcher is giving up work to be with her baby. Claire Roberts, who also swapped champagne buckets for nappy pails, offers her moral support for the difficult time ahead

She has been Superman's lance only, when immediate family could care for Jessica, now seem hard acts to follow, but not for Teri Hatcher, the actress. She has just announced that she is giving up dabbling with silver-screen superheroes to be a hands-on mother to her month-old daughter, Emerson Rose.

Going to film premieres in designer gowns and being adored by Hollywood hunks seems a million miles away from wandering around in your dressing gown, with the only adoring gaze coming from a milky-mouthed infant. But good luck to her. It is never a decision taken lightly when you have a well-estab-lished career. I should know.

I have never dabbled with superheroes and was only a lowly national newspaper fashion editor when, five years ago, I decided to go freelance to spend more time with my daughter. I had gone back to work when Jessica was three months old, outwardly determined to fight the fight of working mothers and prove it was all possible.

i was going to report on the fashion collections four times a year and be the perfect mother at the same time. Milan, London, Paris, New York Chiswick play group. No sweat. But inwardly, from the first anguished day of leaving Jessica with a namy, I knew I had got it all wrong. Stopidly, it took me almost two years and three nannies to good me in a remander of the lunchtime to buy that silk shirt. rags story," she laughs. "My she conceded that the juggling larminouse and to work free lunchtime to buy that silk shirt.

seven, and later my second daughter, Louella, four. When I announced

to colleagues that I was leaving work I received a mixed response (as I am sure Teri Hatcher did from her celebrity girlfriends). Some women looked at me as though I had gone mad: they were cer-tain that I was about to swap my Whistles power suit for a kaftan and my Manolo Blahnik heels for leather flipflops. Others whispered that it was the right move and just what they would do in the same

situation. Like my old office, the world of working mothers is divided. There are those like Teri Hatcher, 33, who are prepared to make life changes. It is not an easy option, particularly for women who

have waited until their thirties to have children. Any woman who has had a career, earned a reasonable wage and been independent will find giving all that up is almost as big a wrench as leaving the baby with a nanny. By the time the baby arrives, working women have got used make the break, to opt for the to a comfortable standard of good life" in a remote Cornish living. Being able to slip out at



Teri Hatcher: her decision was prompted by the Louise Woodward case

you have had your eye on or splashing out on a bottle of Moet on the way home are

addictive treats. This is exactly what Liz Tom misses. Eight years ago, aged 30, she gave up her champagne lifestyle to become a full-time mother.

Mine is a typical riches to

partner and I not only gave up our £100,000 joint salaries but also our London life because wanted to bring up our children without nannies in Cornwall."

Liz struggled to work as a £500-a-day management trainer for a year after having her daughter, Gosel, before

"Working with a baby was one of the most stressful times of my life," she recalls. "I was rushing out at coffee breaks to breastfeed Gosel in a room where my baby and nanny were installed. It wasn't worth it." Liz, who now has a third baby, 11-month-old Ezeld, is certain that she made

the right decision, although she still re-

sents the lack of

act was impossible.

Of course, Teri Hatcher will not be describing her life-style as riches to rags eight years on. With a wealthy TV producer husband, a £1 million mansion in the Hollywood Hills and a healthy bank account, money will not be Ms Hatcher's big worry. 'I just feel lucky I can afford to stay at home," says the actress whose lifechanging decision was prompted by the case of Louise Woodward, the British au pair convicted of manslaughter in America

child in her care. What might get to Ms Hatcher, though, is the lack of status attached to motherhood. I know from experience that if I had given up work completely when I

after the death of a

handed in my notice, I would be a basket case by now. Five years later, I realise how sexy the status of working women can be. When I was a fashion editor, being sent presents by designers and beauty companies was an everyday perk. Being fawned over by PRs was a tiresome interruption to my work. Now a bit of fawning from anyone in between school runs and tea parties would not go amiss. And men, despite all the intensive training designed to make them "new", still talk to working women - their equals - in a more animated and interested

Then there are the women who could afford to give up work and look after their children but categorically do not want to. Nicola Horlick, the City high-flyer, springs to mind. She may have been dubbed "Superwoman" but in the eyes of most mothers she is anything but. Worse still - try working for these women and you will find that they expect as much from their female employees as they give themselves. "If I am not at home to put my children to bed, nor will you be," seems to be their

They kid themselves, constantly saying that their children are stimulated by having six different au pairs in three months and that they could not do the child-rearing as well as a woman who has been trained as a nanny. They also trot out that tired old expression "quality time", which most women recognise as a feeble excuse that no longer convinces anyone, least of all their children.

Then there is another care-

gory: women who would like

to give up work but cannot.

Many working mothers leave their home each morning knowing that they should throw the company car keys down the drain and take over the care of their precious baby. in some cases they work because of genuine financial need; in others it is because of a fear of the unknown. Play group meetings and coffee mornings with women they cannot relate to can seem intimidating, and I know of one woman whose husband will not let her stop work because he is worried she will vegetate at home. These will give up work but never do. We have all been to dinner parties where there is a highpowered working mother who claims that babies do not need their mothers as much as toddlers do. She will give up work when her son is two, she says. Two years on and she is still working, but now she claims that school-age children need their parents far more than toddlers. She will give up work when her son is five. The deadlines continue to be extended until she claims that the most important time

mother's full attention is when

pathy than those who say they

their latchkey offspring are doing their A levels. By this time the little son is a big son and cannot think of anything worse than his mother cramp working because "she is no longer needed at home".

I have no doubts that Teri Hatcher has made the right decision, but if she thinks she has taken a straightforward option, she has a rough ride ahead. As Liz Tom puts it: You feel guilty working as a mother, but you also feel guilty not contributing to the family income and not fulfilling your potential. In short, you can't

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Don't punish the needy, Mr Blair

Conrad Russell on the injustice

in Labour's welfare reform

the election that Tony Blair intended to finance health and education by reducing the social security budget. There is nothing wrong with that: for most of the Conservative years, social security was both the biggest and the fastest growing area of government spending. Any new government would have wanted to change that.

What is now clear is that Mr Blair believes he can reduce the social security budget by changing the social security system. That is a bad case of shooting the messenger. The social security budget is demand led, and therefore largely outside the department's control. People become a charge because they are in need and if social security does not take the strain, it tends to fall on the budgets of other

By far the biggest item in the social security budget is pensions, and the biggest cause of increase in pensions spending is that we are living longer. Governments would be illadvised to try to put this change into reverse. And tinkering at the margins which divide public from private provision does nothing to reduce the cost to society. The second cause of increased spending is growing social sensitivity to disability. This is the mark of a civilised society. and any government which tries to reverse it is unlikely to enjoy a second term. The third cause is relationship breakdown. Parliament has accepted reluctantly that it is beyond the Government's power to reverse this change: herein the patients must minister to

The fourth cause of increased demand is growth in unemployment and under-employment. Under-employ-ment, for these purposes, can be defined as employment at rates which need to be supplemented by in-work benefits. This is the only cause of increased demand which is under government control. But not under the control of the Department of Social Security. The case of housing benefit is an example. The underlying problem is that many people earn too little to pay market rents. This used to be met by subsidies from the Department of the Environment. The subsidies now come through social security, so one of the biggest apparent increases in social security spending is simply a transfer from another department.

Recent attempts to restrict housing benefit seem to be having the effect that people cannot afford to be housed. and so cannot work. This is the Treasury shooting itself in the foot. If social security does not meet the need, the need does

not go away. Whenever the cost of poverry has become burdensome. attempts have been made to blame the poor for unemployment as an excuse for not relieving them. One Essex village in the reign of Charles II even stigmatised its poor by making them wear a yellow star. Where Tudor England used to blame "sturdy beggars", we now blame "welfare dependency". There were always a few anecdotal cases to

t was apparent well before sustain this myth but when the economy picked up, they al-ways seemed to disappear. Welfare benefits are now far too low to encourage "welfare dependency". None of this is to say that the

welfare state does not need change. The basic idea of Welfare to Work is good. The Taylor review, which is trying to remove poverty traps, was badly needed, and Liberal Democrats wish it well. Welfare to Work is to be praised for creating opportunity and for giving a chance to acquire skills, whose lack accounts for most vacancies which remain unfilled for any length of time. What must be stressed is that if all this is to be successful, it must be ancillary to changes in the real economy. Welfare to Work offers employability, not employ-ment and will succeed only if jobs are available. To that end. rebuilding the London Tube. or lowering the value of the pound, would contribute far more than anything the Department of Social Security can do. Removing poverty traps, as Liberal Democrats found when costing our manifesto, is not a cheap strategy. It cannot be done as a costcutting exercise. We must beware the danger

that Welfare to Work may turn into a form of peacetime conscription. Youth training. which seems to be the model for much of Welfare to Work, is a salutary warning. There. refusal of any training place has been punished by total denial of benefit. When we get cases such as the asthmatic who was offered training as a painter, this is as inefficient as it is unjust. Denial of benefit does more to fill the prisons and the hospitals than it does to fill the job centres, and it is not a cheap option. The right to refuse a job is an essential safeguard of the free market. Welfare reform must not destroy that right, or the power of the employer will become

lhese safeguards are even more important when the Government talks of helping the disabled to work. The ambition is laudable, and Professor Stephen Hawking is a reminder of what can be achieved. What must be understood is that between the able-bodied and the disabled, there is a very long spectrum. Most can do some jobs, but the final judgment of which ones must rest with the disabled themselves.

This is not constitutional reform; this time there can be no Liberal Democrat collaboration. We fought the last election against Labour's welfare proposal. We want to reduce the cost of the welfare state, but by creating jobs, not by cutting benefits. We want to elp people off benefit, but by creating opportunities not by starving them into submission. We are not in the business of running the bene-fit office on the River Kwai. When they set up their working party. Labour will be on their own. Indeed, it seems Mr Blair will be on his own.

Lord Russell is social security spokesman for the Liberal Democrats in the House of



God bless the deadline

der: through these pages on Saturday Simon Jenkins very nearly got me cheering for the Dome. I have been a cynic about the thing from the outset: too late, too vague, too wasteful, too naff to love. With every successive outburst about how we must call it an "Experience" and look out for the

"Euan Factor", my heart sank. Besides, I travel often into historic Greenwich just up the river, where I once lived and still haunt the National Maritime Museum. This brings on twinges of rage and dismay that this place — England's Versailles, if only something decent could be done with the Naval College - should be handled piecemeal and meanly while up the road a niffy old gasworks site is paved with Lottery

There are also twinges of doubt over getting these millions in: approaches to Greenwich are sabotaged daily by the railway service, the Blackwall Tunnel, the Docklands Intermittent Railway and the Old Kent Road. They will have to be pretty quick to solve that one.

But I dunno. Commissioner Jenkins bravely defended the magnificent conception and the £450 million. He said its insides would sweep us up and show us a far horizon: that there would be Time in there, and human aspiration and a huge body with veins and arteries and a Tower of Serious Play and a Valley of Ladders. On Sunday it was further revealed that Mr Stephen Bayley promises "a forest of virtual headsets", an exhibit explaining the future meaning of body, mind. and soul (er. what?). some stuff borrowed from the British Museum, big magnets, and a mascot designed by Damien Hirst to symbolise the new Britain. A very large model pickled cow, perhaps, with giant walk-through spongiform

sorry. Any exhibition sounds ridiculous in preview: Simon Jenkins is quite right to quote Burke on the "presumptuous judgment of the ignorant, and unlike the querulous Mr Kaufman I am cheerfully content to stay ignorant until opening day. The reason for my sudden Christmassy benevolence towards the Big Bubble has nothing to do with these tantalising glimpses of its contents. It is all in one obvious but vital statement Simon Jenkins makes about the displays. "Above all," he wrote, "they must be ready on time

brain.

From the Dome to the Christmas dinner, we all need to be set a target

. The dome is both about time and about a race against time."

Suddenly I toss up my hat, punch the air and say "Yes!" I suddenly see the pleasure of the Millennium Dome. It has to be ready on time, or it is pointless. Even if, as evil gossips say, it is manned by doubters and squabblers it has a huge asset - the most invigorating, inspiring asset of all, the one sure guarantee of teamwork and decisiveness and excitement. It has an unbreakable deadline. If they don't finish on time they might as well never have started. The show must go on. There is no alternative.

And at this season we can all raise a glass to that and wish the Domies luck. We can sympathise. We know how it is with big deadlines. Christmas Day is rolling those who mark it

want to mark it well. We want the food right, the presents right, the beds made, wine mulled, the decorations up, the cards sent, the visits accomplished. We want everything swept and garnished.

But there will be no point in any of it if we miss the deadline. You can't put off Christmas Day, or buy crackers when there's nobody left to pull them with. There is no point getting the guest room perfect when the guests have been and gone, or filling stockings two days after the children have found them empty. So in these last hectic days, we Christmas-makers hurtle from shop to stove to freezer. Sellotape in our hair and pine-needles in our underwear, as bent on meeting our immutable deadline as any Dome

And what effect does this have? Apart, that is, from holly lacerations caused by bringing down a variegated wreath on your head with a wildly flourished roll of wrapping-paper, and the hernia caused by lunging to save the tree when the dog knocks it over in its attempts to escape having a pair of polystyrene antlers fixed to its head?

I will tell you. This stress, this need

to finish, is the fastest teacher of efficiency there is. The glorious thing which a real, immovable deadline does is to improve your skills in management. There is no need for droning lecturers to tell you about prioritisation or timemanagement: you do it for very survival. Sluggards become lively, and the chronically indecisive make snap decisions.

Say you are a working woman with Christmas duties atop the rest: well, the house plainly cannot be both swept and garnished in the time, so you just garnish like mad and trust (as in their way,

> overhead distracts from crunched-up pinecones and mince pies underfoor. You light canlights off to camou-

the Domesters

over unironed tablecloths and spike the mulled wine of censorious relatives. You give up the idea of wrapping presents tidily because there are 83 presents to wrap, counting stockings; you scrunch and twist instead. You glance at the clock and the calendar and decide that while indeed a home-made stuffing and Delia Smith cranberry confit would be nice, a packet and a jar will hit the deadline.

If, like me, the approach of the sacred day involves turning your study back into the guest bedroom but you are still hammering the computer as the guest is hammering at the door, you leap up, unfold the Zbed, hurl a festively red sheet over the chaos of the desk (possibly topping it with holly for luck) and feign a bright welcoming smile. Then, with the artifice of despair, you offer to put on a nice video for the said guest so you can nip into their room and type on surreptitiously under the

My husband takes an even more audacious line: when there is some household project looming he always starts it three weeks before Christmas so that it "has" to be finished on time. One year he ripped strands of old wallpaper off, making the house so

the much-publicised ghost haunt-

ing Peterhouse, perhaps the Cam-

than the undergraduates who used

to commandeer the Combination

Room for their dining clubs. "We

were all banned from having din-

ners there after the Cocoa Tree

dge dons should look no further

repulsive that he had to repaper it or die of shame. This year he knocked a huge hole in the wall of the only room big enough to seat 14 Christmas diners and filled it with evil brickrubble. It had to be sorted out, so it has been. Just. Or should be, by

Any rush, any chaos, any impossible striving is justified by a deadline. For journalists, but also for anybody who regularly fulfils non-negotiable orders or gets onstage for the first night, an unmissable deadline is both stimulus and release. It even enjoins a certain humility. If you don't get the article right by six, or the act together by curtain-up, there is nothing more you can do. Either it goes in imperfect or not at all. In handing it over, you admit both your effort and your

The Dome team will have to do that come 2000 and that alone gives them a certain dignity. The thing cannot be unfinished, so it must be pulled together somehow. Like Christmas.

There should be more of these deadlines in public life. Think of all the things which consensus says should be done: in education, in the penal and judicial systems, in the infrastructure and environment and the protection of children in care. But there are no deadlines, no magical millennial dates to meet, so everything is flabby.

e make excuses, talk ourselves into pompous inertia, set up public inquiries and royal commissions, wait months and years for their conclusions and then put those to parliamentary committees and working parties so we can debate them and push them around a bit and get nothing much done at all. Sometimes we create artificial deadlines by the ridiculous modern management tic of "target-setting", knowing all the time that the targets and goalposts can be moved and cheated freely, and undoubtedly will be by the time the next election comes round, everything stops and changes and we can start doing nothing all over again.

No: from a heap of unwrapped presents beneath a rickety tree, I salute that great force for good: the deadline. I wish all who meet it, in however ramshackle a manner, a

merry Christmas. Or at least, a more or less complete

Davos. By way of consolation, he received a bouquet of flowers from his distinctly off-piste chum, the

Why I believe in Jacob

David Selbourne

defends his

mystery manuscript

ecently I translated the manu-script of a merchant. Jacob of Ancona, who set sail for the East in 1270 and arrived in China a year before Marco Polo. But since the owner of the manuscript will permit no further access to the work lest his anonymity be broached, the appearance of my translation The City of Light has been a turbulent event.

The book has been greeted by some as a hoax, a political satire worthy of a Montesquieu or a Swift, even a plot by the Left to discredit me. Foliy and error of judgment have marked the

That the book is also a Jewish work of piety, containing an account of historic Jewish tribulation and defiance as well as an excoriation of Christian "idolatry", has, for whatev-er reason, barely been mentioned Yer if there were still a Vatican Index. it would surely be placed on it.

The manuscript's owner - who is himself not Jewish and not an inhabitant of Urbino, where I live first approached me about it in 1990. Why me? Because my interest in Judaica, including the history of medieval Jewry in Italy, was known to him, and because I was not Italian, yet within reach. Only those familiar with Italian mores could understand the mistrust, often justified, in which Italians hold one another, while Italian scholarship is a byword for bad faith, corruption, and indolence. By contrast, the Englishman will generally be considered, rightly or wrongly, as trustworthy in keeping a pledge, as non-materialistic and as

As to the essential authenticity of the Ancona manuscript - pending access to it by others better qualified than I — and the genuine purposes of its owner in wanting its contents translated into English, I have not been in doubt. I worked on it intermittently for several years at the owner's house, neither permitted to take it from his premises, nor to take samples or photographs of it on the (mistaken) grounds that it would lead to the provenance of the manuscript and the present owner's identity becoming known to all.

A considerable amount, perhaps a fifth or sixth of the original, largely Tuscan, Italian - there are also Hebrew exclamations, encomia to God and Talmudic citations — was incorporated in my notes and translation as I went along. These were words, idiomatic phrases, proper names and philosophical terms which I wished to study further in lexicons and works of reference. I incorporated most of these words and phrases into the text of my translation, placing them in square brackets. The British publishers, Little, Brown, struck them out in the editing process, but they had been provided as an earnest, in the interim, of the authenticity of the text. A very small proportion of them remains in the notes. No reviewer, so far as I recall. has remarked on them. Instead, cabal-like pressures, origi-

nating in American academia, have been exerted against Little, Brown in America, the holders of subsidiary rights in my translation. A kind of scholarly fatwa has been pronounced against it, compromising freedom of publication (and intellectual freedom) in the very land of the free. The British publishers are made of sterner stuff, as are other publishers worldwide, whose translators are hard at work on the text.

et, in England also, risky libels about a "fake" have been spread; scholarship has pronounced upon the supposed anachronism of a single word; the manuscript has been described as "too long". I have been informed from the pulpits of academia that, although Jacob of Ancona categorically mentions them, there were no wheeled carriages in the great city of Zaitun (Quanzhou) which he visited. no saffron, no opium - although medieval Chinese pharmacopoeias mention it - and even no sex or sexual aberration, although Jacob

gives an account of both. I have been unblushingly told, too, in a broadcast exchange with an English critic, that the Chinese of 13thcentury Zaitun would have had great difficulty" in communicating with each other in oral speech, so that the moral and political debates which Jacob describes could not have taken place - a proposition laughed to scorn by Chinese scholars.

That the conditions under which I worked on the translation would cause difficulty I anticipated. But I did not expect that mere opinion and supposition would be presented as counter-facts, nor the false assumption made that what today's academics do not know — or did not know until they read the Ancona manuscrit - could not be knowledge. Thus far, only the pointing out of one serious typographical error about a Jewish fast will be of service for future editions.

In sum, Jacob's tale, like Marco Polo's, stands, legitimate and spurious doubts notwithstanding. However assailed, the Ancona argosy sails on, to the discomfiture of critics and the delight of readers. Like Marco Polo, Jacob of Ancona lives.

The author is the translator of Jacob of Ancona's The City of Light, Little,

Old square

ANTHONY TROLLOPE. I can reveal, was a Freemason. The author, who put Barsetshire on the literary map and consoled John Major during some of the worst moments of his premiership, joined the secret society in the early 1840s. Experts on Trollope have been unaware of his membership. But my revelation confirms the suspicions of most Masons. who have for many years considered him one of theirs because of his use of ritual phrases in his books. Trollope's membership came to light

during a recent sale at Sotheby's of his papers. These included three Masonic certificates, one signed by the Duke of Leinster, issued to him by the Grand Lodge in Dublin between i842 and i846. Also on sale was what is believed to be Trollope's Masonic apron.

The author had been transferred to Ireland in 1841 as a rather lowly Post Office clerk, and Victoria Glendinning, who has written a famous biography, thinks he may have signed up as a means of getting to know people. "Others join nightclubs or gyms," she says. Perhaps it was a form of networking." John Letts, chairman of the Trollope Society, concurs: "He was making a rather earnest effort to establish himself as a respectable citizen and escape what he called his hobb le de hoy past, in other words being a slob."

Exhaustive research into Trollope's life has failed to reveal his Masonic past because, like a good



member, he made no reference to the group in his correspondence or private letters. But he did hint at it in his writing, employing phrases such as "third degree", "acting on the level" and "being square". I shall now browse my battered Barchester Towers or Phineas Finn with added interest.

•FILM and tourism minister Tom Clarke is curiously camera shy. On a bracing visit to Barnslev's legendary Elsecar Heritage



Centre, the minister became hristly when a snapper attempted to immortalise the moment. A haughty handler stepped in to shoo the wretch away. The explanation? "Please can you not take photos while he is talking. It'll confuse him." revealed a ministerial aid. Let's hope Clarke does not find his dual portfolio equally problematic.

Loud mouths

WHEN they worked as government information officers, they kent their mouths shut as much as possible. After losing their jobs. they cannot keep quiet. Liz Drummond is the latest of at least six vicrims of a Labour-inspired purge and, like some of her predecessors. has vented her spleen publiciv. Drummond, who quit as head of

information at the Scottish Office after "difficulties" with Donald Dewar, has written a vitriolic attack on the powers that be in today's Parliamentary Review magazine. "Slick presentation cannot compensate for an absence of policy. 'Good news' gimmicks will not distract the media or the electorate for long," she whines, "PR puffery is no substitute for truth." But after many years working in Whitehall, does the good Ms Drummond know the difference?

RATHER than calling in an exorcist to determine the identity of



chaps decided to upset the dons by pretending it was haunted." Slip up THE Prince of Wales's new year jaunt to Klosters with his sons -

aimed at raising the morale of the

young princes - has already hit a

mogul: his favourite ski instructor, Bruno Sprecher, has been put in hospital with a knee injury. Sprecher, 42 — a jovial, bearded sort of chap - has been as regular a feature of the Prince's skiing hols as a fondu. The instructor was with the Prince during the avalanche in 1988 which killed his friend, Major Hugh Lindsay. Sprecher could be out of action for at least two seasons after tearing several knee ligaments. "I was looking forward to skiing with Princes William and Harry so as to bring a little joy back to their lives after the tragic death of their mother." winced Sprecher from his hospital bed in

Club met there last year and smashed a few plates," says a junior mortar-board. "Some of the

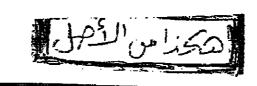
Duchess of York.



Helena: common touch

● ENDEARINGLY, Helena Bonham Carter insists she is rather below stairs. "Just because my greatgrandfather was Prime Minister, everyone wrongly assumes I am irredeemably posh, she told me yesterday, as critics murmur approval for her latest effort, The Wings of the Dove. "All PMs get gongs. Blair certainly will and he's not posh."

Jasper Gerard



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THETTIMES

SELECTIVE CULL

The past and future of the British beef industry

It was an unfortunate but entirely apt certainty. All or none of these institutions reflection on the BSE affair that Jack Cunningham's statement to the House of Commons yesterday should be delayed by an inexplicable technical malfunction. The same combination of error and uncertainty has been present throughout this fiasco. The Minister for Agriculture recovered - rather better than the beef industry - to offer a brief statement that was wide-ranging and broadly persuasive. His department has hardly been in the forefront of truly open government and the belated arrival of the searchlight of scrutiny, under the charge of Lord Justice Phillips, must be welcomed.

The case for a searching inquiry — but not a partisan kangeroo court - is powerful. The whole BSE melodrama has been an extraordinary and exceptionally expensive story. The unfortunate truth is that neither the events themselves nor the expense have reached their conclusion. It might be argued that the allocation of blame for the BSE crisis is either impractical or irrelevant. However, the restoration of confidence (or not) in the beef industry requires much firmer responses to questions that have been asked but rarely answered. Without a credible investigation from an independent source, baseless rumour will displace fact and partial interpretation eclipse dis-

passionate analysis. There would, at this stage, seem to be three candidates for public contempt. The industry itself which - according to some engaged in potentially poisonous practices in the 1980s and then demanded vast public compensation in the 1990s. The second candidate is the Ministry of Agriculture (MAFF) which, according to its substantial company of critics, has behaved consistently as if its initials stood for More Aid Fast to Farmers. Finally, there are the scientists who, according to certain politicians, operated on an exceptionally flexible concept of might be deemed responsible. It is in the interest of all concerned to clear the air.

The most significant aspect of the Cumningham statement may be that about which he was most deliberately ambiguous. The Minister asserted that restructuring of the industry was "vital" and that it was essential for UK producers to presume that major changes were inevitable. This should be read as an acknowledgement that the export ban on British beef will not be lifted for some years to come. Furthermore, it can be calculated. Dr Cunningham does not think that consumer confidence will return much faster. This is not a Ministry message which will be popular with rural communities. That does not mean it is unrealistic.

The Opposition sought to place attention on the financial scheme that Dr Cunningham outlined for hill farmers. This will consist of E60 million offered to the beef sector from European Union funds. Another £25 million will be made available in 1998 via an increase in the Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance. Dr Cunningham stresses that this allowance was "exceptional and one-off". The farmers will doubtless note that more could have been made available from EU coffers.

It is indicative of this whole affair that two, utterly different, reactions may be felt in the country to this compensation package. Those who believe that farmers chose to engage in dubious feeding practices in the 1980s will be outraged that one penny has been paid from the public purse. Others who have concluded that the health scare has been fuelled by hype will think that Dr Cunningham has been parsimonious. There cannot be a convincing answer to the question of financial claim until the question of factual blame is settled. We can only hope that the Phillips inquiry is more effective and timely than every other aspect of this saga.

OFF THE GROUND

The Eurofighter now awaits construction

After years of uncertainty and squabbling, the defence ministers of Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain yesterday committed their governments to the construction and purchase of Eurofighter, the £40 billion aircraft that will form the backbone of European. defence until well into the next millennium. Their signature in Bonn of a binding agreement guarantees up to 80,000 jobs in Britain, ensures that European defence industries remain at the forefront of techfacturers a product that will, over time, reap billions of pounds in export orders. Yet so chequered has been the history of this ambitious project that few can now believe that the crises of the past decade are over. Eurofighter looked stillborn at least three times; its birth will be a marvel not only of engineering but of political will.

British industry will welcome the final goahead for the fighter without reservations. With a 38 per cent stake in the project, Britain will manufacture many of the most sophisticated components, including the cockpit, the front canard wings, part of the main wings, the new EJ200 engines and much of the avionics, including the advanced ECR90 radar. Almost all the leading engineering and avionics companies will have a share of the work, ensuring their global competitive edge and the maintenance of a skilled workforce. Parts of the country will have jobs guaranteed for years to come, especially in Lancashire, Bristol and Derby. Britain will continue to be a centre of engineering excellence.

These arguments were long rehearsed in the wrangling among the four producing nations, especially when Germany was straining to pull out of the project. Britain, playing on Germany's European commitment, insisted that unless the project went

ahead, America's technological lead would become unassailable. It argued that the fighter was the single greatest co-operative project making a reality of the European Union's dream of pooling its industrial muscle and interchanging training.

None of this, however, could stand beside the determining question: was the fighter really needed? Conceived in 1983 at the height of the Cold War, with development getting underway in 1988, Eurofighter was overtook the West after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. The Germans, especially, insisted there was no longer a need for a plane to challenge the best of the Soviet air force. They considered its avionics, specifications and armaments too heavy, expensive and sophisticated for what they believed would, in future, be the low-level threats to Western security. Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister, was determined to cancel the project, or, at best, change the Eurofighter into a cheaper and lighter plane.

Eventually, the Germans were convinced, partly by the experience of the Gulf War, that such arguments were naive. Europe needs up-to-date defence no less in time of peace than at the height of global ideological conflict. With the Cold War over, Europe could, in theory, have bought cheap Russian MiG29s, but spares would have presented an insurmountable obstacle - let alone the politics of relying on Moscow. The only real alternative was the American F22. But at double the cost, this would not provide commensurate extra security. Like Concorde and Airbus, other multinational aviation projects that appeared doomed during development, Eurofighter is both justified in its mission and of immense consequence to the competitiveness and innovation of Western defence. It has now, finally, taken off.

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Americans embrace the British Christmas

British exports may have had a difficult year in America, but there are some UK products which have clambered over the EU's tariff barriers to run riot through stateside shopping malis. While British mums have scoured high streets for Tellytubbies, American moms have tramped main streets for another sweet yet cloying celebration of the full stomach - the traditional Christmas pudding. For a nation which has come to regard skimmed milk in the decaff as an unthinkably decadent way in which to round off a dinner of mixed leaves and skinless chicken breast, the emergence of Mrs Recton's suct cannonball as the new pudding of choice is as culturally significant as any of this year's social changes.

A country which had come to regard. silicon as the only acceptable way of adding inches to the figure is learning to loosen its belt for the season of goodwill. Purveyors of traditional English fayre are delighted at the rejection of body fascism. This Christmastide there is much joy in the kingdom of Harrods over the thinnies who repent. The Treasury too, will be delighted - welcoming

the boost to foreign earnings. Figgy pudding is, however, not the only traditional trapping of the British Yule to win new friends abroad. The leading importer of transatlantic bibelots is Neiman-Marcus, the upscale department store where the assistants responded to Imran Khan's concerns about the Kashmir conflict by advising his wife to team the cardigan with a silk scarf. The biggest hit this season has not, however, been anything tight in the new brown, black or grey but something with an even shorter post-purchase life than a New York cocktail dress - the Christmas cracker. The appeal of crackers, the paper ones

that is was hindered initially by the common language which divides our two great nations. American customers were, apparently, slow to see the attraction of pulling at a dry biscuit to celebrate the festive season. The glorious extravagance, however, of investing in a Christmas frippery which could not be packed away in the goodie trunk for subsequent re-use eventually worked its magic on a country of conspicuous consumers. Pulling on a cracker has become an American declara-

tion of financial independence. It is fitting that preparations for this Christmas should prove the Congressional Speaker Newt Gingrich right in his assertion that the Atlantic was easier to cross than the English Channel Although many apparently British Christmas traditions are German inventions introduced by Prince Albert the character of the season really owes more to Dickens and Disney than Deutschland. The special relationship is alive and well, paper hats on the partners' heads and plum duff on the table.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London Et 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Resolving Labour economic conflicts From Mr Mike Faulkes

Sir. As a lifelong Conservative I applaud new Labour's determination to keep government expenditure within strict limits. We have a strong econonry but high interest rates directed at avoiding inflation. The consequent-

ly high pound damages exports.

Isn't there another way of balancing these conflicts? A reduction in interest rates could be mirrored by an increase in taxation which would leave the average family no worse off. This would help-exports, increase government income and reduce its expenditure on servicing the national debt. The result would be to make exports stronger and enable the Government to improve expenditure on vital services or restart repaying the national debt, or

a judicious combination of the two.

The Government did give a manifesto undertaking not to increase taxes. It has already broken this several times. If the proposed increase was clearly a package leading to reduced mortgage repayments it should be within the wit of the Government to explain this to the electorate. It presumably has sufficient influence over the Bank concerning interest rates. At present it is wringing its hands and doing little positive in the economic field.

Yours faithfully, MIKE FAULKES. 171 Kidmore Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 7NN. December 19.

Welfare changes

From Mr Frederik Dean

Sir, I would like to commend the Government on its programme of welfare reform (letters, December 9, 13, 17, 18). As the steward of this nation's taxpayers' money it must be wise in spending limited resources.

It is good and proper that this country has a system which helps those who cannot help themselves. I would, however, like to suggest that there are insufficient funds available to distribute to those who will not help themselves.

Spending priorities will have to be made. It is time individual responsibility was again seen as a key to a stable, caring society. Without it, "rights" should not be forthcoming to anyone who claims them.

Yours sincerely, FREDERIK DEAN. 36 Normanhurst Avenue, Bournemouth BH8 9NP. fad@docfadean.prestel.co.uk December 19.

Cold War memories

From Mrs Caroline Scallon

Sir, Richard Beeston, your correspondent in Moscow, must be too young to remember the temperatures in that city at the end of 1978 (weather reports, December 17, 18). They too were the lowest for the preceding century. Mr Beeston's parents should remember, as they were there at the time (with The Daily Telegraph), as were we (with Barclays Bank).

Thermometers in Moscow plunged to -10C. We watched the guards at Lenin's tomb changing every 15 minutes one night, in spite of the heating pads under their feet; garage-less cars had their engines turned over every 15 minutes all night and most of the day: and we filled our screen washers with vodka, which did not freeze; humans could stand being outside for only 10 to 15 minutes at a time before returning to their overheated apartments and a warming tot of brandy. Dacha parties arranged for the festive season had to be cancelled.

Democracy, it seems, does not have a monopoly on lowest recorded temperatures; or perhaps these figures were suppressed under the communist regime?

Yours faithfully, CAROLINE SCALLON, 28 Grange Road, SW13 9RE. December 18.

Cold snipe

From Mr J. G. Wishart

Sir, Mr Peter Birnie (letter today) is right: southerners, confronted by snow, become a race of wimps. When I lived in Maryland, three

inches of snow were required before schools and military bases closed. In Alabama, a heavy frost sufficed.

Yours faithfully, J. G. WISHART, Milton House. Milton of Balgonie Glenrothes KY7 6PX. December 19.

A matter of trust

From Mr. Ben Noble

Sir, Having listened to the Prime Minister (report, December 18) and read the Paymaster General's statements (report, December 15) on the question of offshore trusts, and not understanding what these are about, can I ask them what the purpose of these trusts is, apart from avoidance of UK tax?

Sincerely, BEN NOBLE, 25 Windermere Avenue, Hawcost, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 4LN. December 19.

'Hollow gestures' of Irish President

From Mr Robin Burv

Sir, The fact that our new, staunchly Catholic President, Mary McAleese, has taken Holy Communion in the Church of Ireland cathedral in Dublin (News in brief, December 9) struck me, as a member of that Church, as being an act of theatre rather than solemn worship. Presumably her motive was to build another of those bridges she talks about to Protestants in Ireland.

However, the President knows full well that in the Republic of Ireland relations between Protestants and Catholics are good, so this sort of gesture is a hollow one. All it has achieved is to arouse the wrath of some of her own church leaders and divided Catholics on this island.

Perhaps the gesture was intended more for Unionists in Northern Ireland? If so, it was negated by the President's visit to West Belfast on December 5, when she failed to meet Joe Hendron, the former representative of the SDLP, the Catholic constitutional party. Instead, she met with the extreme nationalist. Gerry Adams, whose movement (in the words of

your leading article of December 12) uses violence "not to secure freedom and democracy but stille it".

Unionists are pragmatic people and judge people by their acts, not their words. On this basis, they know Mary McAleese as a radical nationalist, and dismiss her silly talk of her "love" for them. People in Ireland want lasting peace and stability. They realise that if Mr Hume and Mr Trimble were left to make terms, a settlement would be reached in a matter of days.

Had Mrs McAleese been creative enough to wear a poppy during her inauguration ceremony on Armistice Day to commemorate the many Irish dead in two world wars -- she refused to do this (report, November 12) - she would have given out a signal that she disapproves of the extreme republicans who are successfully setting the agenda today, both in London and Dublin. And that would have shown

Yours sincerely, ROBIN BURY, II Firgrove, Military Road, Killiney. Co Dublin. December 15.

Guardsmen in prison

From Major-General Murray Naylor Sir, The involvement of Martin Bell, MP, in the campaign to highlight the cases of Scots Guardsmen Fisher and Wright, together with your report and leader today, make it clear that their position is one which must be considered again by Ministers on the grounds of natural justice.

Martin Bell knows the circumstances which soldiers have had to face on the streets of Northern Ireland since 1969 and his judgment and experience in these matters should be heeded.

I visited Jim Fisher and Mark Wright on December 16 in Maghaberry prison in Northern Ireland. where they will be spending their sixth Christmas for a tragic mistake made while they were discharging the operational policy of the UK Government.

They are genuinely remorseful for what happened and look forward to returning to their regiment, but are bewildered by their apparently different treatment from the IRA prisoners released yesterday for Christmas.

It is not good enough for the cases of Fisher and Wright to be treated without reference to their human rights. At this time of peace and goodwill for all men perhaps a gesture of reconciliation is appropriate for all those

who have become victims of the conflict in Northern Ireland, not just those with powerful advocates to speak for

Yours etc MURRAY NAYLOR (Chairman of the Guardsmen Fisher and Wright Release Group), PO Box 16331, London SWIE 6ZJ. December 19.

From Group Captain P. W. Johnson

Sir. Your leader today draws attention to the anomaly of justice which has allowed the release for a Christmas break with their families of men whose crimes against humanity were terrible and deliberate, but has denied such fleeting liberty to two loyal British soldiers incarcerated in the same prison for an action when they were under orders in defence of the Queen's peace.

One of the main planks of British policy now is the theme of open gov-

Should we not therefore know exactly where the responsibility for ordering and denying such releases

Yours faithfully, P. W. JOHNSON, 23 Albury Park, Guildford GU5 9BB. December 19.

Turkey and Cyprus

stalemate.

From the Reverend A. Graham Hellier

Sir, I would not wish to devalue the Reconciliation Walk from Cologne to Jerusalem which marked the 900th anniversary of the First Crusade (letter, December 18). Roger Forster links it with Turkey's application to join the EU — a very different matter.

Had the walkers diverted through Diyarbakir they would have found the air full of voices about fresh atrocities - not all one-sided, it is true - for which the Turkish Government carries a heavy responsibility.

The 30 million Kurdish people are effectively under military rule. Their culture is still repressed and their civil rights are denied. Arrests and torture are everyday occurrences. MPs are imprisoned and journalists murdered. Hundreds of villages have been bombed and razed. Over 12,000 people have died.

Our ears may be tuned to the distant wrongs of history but there is fresh blood crying out to be heard. Is it surprising that Europe is "equivocal"? Would European membership tip

the balance towards true democracy

Sir, Reading Dr David Abulafia's and Ms Kay Lacey's letters (December 12) on David Selbourne's *The City of Light* (letter, December 5), I could not help wondering whether whoever produced the manuscript on which it is said to be based wasn't playing a game of "See how many mistakes you

rator, "Jacob of Ancona", says how fast his galley sailed - "we made wings of our oars" - thus anticipating one of Dante's most vivid metaphors (Inferno, xxvi, 125), first written down some forty to fifty years later.

Unsporting abuse

From Mrs Elizabeth Marchal

merely practising.

ELIZABETH MARCHAL, December 13.

faxed to 0171-782-5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk or must human rights first prevail? There is work to be done here for

Yours sincerely, GRAHAM HELLIER, Monmarsh End,

iustice as well as reconciliation.

Marden, Hereford HRI 3EZ.

From Mr Aziz Gulbahar Sir, Mr Tony Mitsides (letter, December 18) is right in his belief that Cyprus's membership of the EU will be a new factor in the 30-year-old

The unilateral Greek Cypriot application has been the single most important factor that will lead to the permanent division of the island: the Greek Cypriots' wish of Enosis (union with Greece) being achieved after decades of trying and the Turkish Cypriots seeking integration with Turkey, since it is clear the EU wants neither of the two parties.

Yours faithfully, AZIZ GULBAHAR (Chairman, Political Committee), Council of Turkish Cypriot Associations (UK). PO Box 12759, London E8 IPP.

Crusader kingdom, he is allowed to

take a caravan to Damascus with

which at that time (though Jacob is

oblivious of it all) the kingdom was at

But more amusing than the absolute impossibilities are the general

absurdities. Among these my own

favourite is the way Jacob hires a pilot

at Ancona to guide him through the

China seas - rather like taking a Lon-

don taxi-driver with you to help get

Perhaps the publishers, Little,

Brown and Company, could market

The City of Light here by offering a

prize to whoever can identify the most

I Forrest Road, Stirling FK8 IUH.

Sir, I voted "Yes" for a Welsh assem-

bly believing that it would be based in

the capital, Cardiff, and so did thousands of others who had read

promotional material. At no time

were the Welsh electorate given infor-

mation to the contrary.

Any move now by the Secretary of

State for Wales to break this link and

to house the assembly elsewhere may

surely be viewed as misrepresen-

77 Heathway, Cardiff CF4 4JS.

rav@dyspel.demon.co.uk

Welsh assembly

From Mr Ray Kingdon

around Edinburgh.

and best of these.

Yours faithfully,

tation.

Yours etc.

RAY KINGDON,

JOHN LARNĚR,

Jacob of Ancona

From Professor John Larner

can spot". Here are two I particularly

Sailing the Adriatic in 1270, the nar-

Then, from Acre, the capital of the

Sir, School pupils who shout abuse at sporting opposition (report, December 13) should not be condemned; they have obviously set their sights on serving their country as MPs and are

Yours faithfully, 33 Croft Way, Sevenoaks TN13 2JU.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be

From Dr Bill Smith

Sir. Mr Anthony Fry is rightly concerned (letter, December 20) about the confusion over whether to sit or stand during the Hallelujah Chorus. However, there is a spiritual significance which helps to explain this tradition. Handel's Messiah traces the story of Jesus from his birth through his

Messiah message raises the spirits

earthly ministry, his Crucifixion, and his Resurrection. The Hallelujah Chorus represents the disciples final understanding of the reality of his Resurrection. It is natural that they should want to rise to their feet to acclaim this wonderful revelation. No doubt this, too, is how George II felt during the first performance of this

moving work. There is a yet deeper significance the Messiah continues with our own resurrection: The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible" (I Corinthians xv. 52). The entire audience of the Albert Hall, or wherever, rising for the Hallelujah Chorus provides a brief foretaste of how at the last day we shall all rise up "to meet the Lord in the air" (I Thessalonians iv. 17).

Yours etc. BILL SMITH. 25 Sidelands Road, Downend, Bristol BS16 2TS. bill.smith@bristol.ac.uk December 22.

Reindeer recruit

From the Reverend Julian Sullivan

Sir. A cursory reading of an alterna-tive text, The Night before Christmas, by Clement C. Moore, appears to confirm the view of Mr A. H. Davis (letter. December 17) that the employment of Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer was indeed temporary.

On the night in question, visibility was excellent (The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow, gave the lustre of midday to objects below .. "1. St Nick favoured eight reindeer in a 2-2-2-2 formation, calling them by name: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder and

On a clear night, Rudolph's special attribute would have been redundant, accounting for his omission from the squad. The inescapable conclusion is surely that Rudolph is kept in reserve

for hazardous weather conditions. Happy Christmas to all. Yours faithfully, JULIAN SULLIVAN. St Mary's Vicarage, 42 Charlotte Road, Sheffield SI 4TL

juliansullivan l@compuserve.com From Mr A. D. Peevers

Sir. While Mr Davis is correct in asserting that Santa's sleigh was not drawn by red-nosed reindeer he is clearly mistaken in believing that Rudolph was only a one-night temp. In the song it is stated that "all of the other reindeer ... wouldn't let poor

Rudolph join in any reindeer games".

If Rudolph was so unfairly excluded from the extracurricular activities of the said reindeer then surely this proves that he was indeed regularly employed by Santa (at least on a sea-

sonal basis). Yours faithfully, ALAN PEEVERS. Box 51775, Nairobi, Kenya.

Heard but not seen

From Colonel David Whitaker

Sir, There is not much point in dehating when you should tell your children the whole truth about Father Christmas (letters, December 20); they will discover it in their own time in a variety of ways. I well remember my son when he was about six telling me that he had not been able to see Father Christmas filling his stocking because his bedroom had been too dark, but that he had heard what he said when he stubbed his toes on a bedpost.

Yours sincerely. DAVID WHITAKER, The Dower House, Chawton, Nr Alton, GU34 ISB.

Heavenly gift

From Mrs Anne Middleton

Sir, Peterborough's bargain hunters (letter, December 22) should count themselves lucky it is only the price of their Holy Family crib scene that has been reduced. Imagine the shock awaiting Christmas shoppers a few years ago in Hexham, Northumberland, where the reduction in a charity shop was far more drastic: "Nativity set £8. Baby missing."

Yours faithfully, ANNE MIDDLETON. 8 Little Cloister, Westminster Abbey, SWIP 3PL December 22.

Shocking filler

From Mr Philip J. Gregg

Sir, Mr Alasdair Maclean (letter, December 20) asks where the mouse in the traditional Christmas stocking came from. The same place as the mouse in the traditional tin of baked beans (report, December 19)?

Yours faithfully, P. J. GREGG, 32 Lancaster Road, Rugby CV21 2OW December 20.



COURT CIRCULÂR

SANDRINGHAM.

NORFOLK December 22: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation and of the Game Conservancy Trust, this afternoon presented the prizes at the Young Shots' Clay Pigeon Shoot at the Sandringham Shooting Ground.

ST JAMES'S PALACE December 22: The Prince of Wales, Patron, this morning visited the Cotswold Care Hospice, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire.

His Royal Highness, Patron, later visited the Sue Ryder Home at Leckhampton Court, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Birthdays today

The Emperor of Japan cele-brates his 64th birthday today.

The Earl of Balfour, 72; Sir Franklin Berman, civil servant, 58; Mrs C. Bicknell, former chairman, Victoria Health Authority, 78: Sir Norman Biggs, banker, 90; Lord Blake, FBA, 81; Professor Timothy Burt, Master, Hat-field College, Durham University, 46; Mr David Davis, MP, 49: Sir Peter Davis, chief executive, Prudential Corporation, 56; Mr Maurice Denham, actor, 88; Sir Colin Fielding, civil servant, 71; Mr J.R.S. Guinness, chairman, British Nuclear Fuels, 62: Mr Yousuf Karsh, photographer, 89: Mr Graham Kelly, chief executive, Football Association, 52.

Professor Peter Lachmann, former president, Royal College of Pathologists, 66; Miss Belinda Lang, actress, 44: Mr Christopher Lawrence, silversmith, 61; Sir Roger Neville, former chief executive, Sun Alliance Insurance Group, 66; Mr Ashley Raeburn, former chairman, Boosey and Hawkes, 79; Herr Helmut Schmidt, former Chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany, 79: the Rev Christopher Turner, former Headmaster, Stowe School, 68; Mr R.S. Unwin, publisher, 72; the Marquess of Winchester,

The Grey Coat Hospital, vy esiminsier

The Queen has agreed to be Patron of the Tercentenary year, 1998, of The Grey Coat Hospital, Westminster. Please phone for further information - 0171 \$28 3242.

The Royal Society of Chemistry

The following were admitted as Fellows of The Royal Society of Chemistry in December 1997. They are entitled to use the designation Chartered Chemist and the letters

CChem FRSC. R A Aitken, B C Axcell, P C Davies, A C Dweck, C D Fields, M D Goodyear, G W Ketley, M R S McCoustra, P R Norman, J Oakes, D N Rogers, G S Russell, M Sargent, D J Schillrin, C A Shand, M S Subramanian, A J Vella. A D



Suzanne Trisk, of Christie's, South Kensington, with a rare Gauge 1 mid-1930s Pacific steam locomotive which was expected to sell for £7,000 to £10,000. The locomotive is the largest item in a two-day auction of trains and toys taking place yesterday and today. The smallest is a Japanese Penny Toy train whose coaches are each 2in long

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir Richard Arkwright, inventor, Preston. 1732; Sir Martin Archer Shee, painter, Dublin, 1770; Joseph Smith, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons), Sharon, Vermont, 1805: Samuel Smiles, author of Self Help. Haddington, Lothian, 1812; Sir Hugh Allen, musician, Reading, 1869; J. Arthur Rank, Ist Baron Rank, industrialist and film magnate, Hull, 1888. DEATHS: Michael Drayton, poet, London, 1631; John Cotton, Puritan clergyman (the Patriarch of New England), Boston, 1652; Thomas Robert Malthus, economist, Bath, 1834; Hugh Miller, geologist, committed suicide, 1865; Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, builder of the tower bearing his name, Paris, 1923; Anthony Herman Fokker, aircraft

1926-31, Garrowby, Yorkshire, 1959. HMS Bounty, commanded by William Bligh, set sail for the South Seas, 1787. Joseph Hansom patented a type of cab, 1834.

The BBC began daily radio

pioneer, New York, 1939; Edward Frederick Lindley

Wood, 1st Earl of Halifax,

statesman, Viceroy of India

broadcasts, 1922.

Keception HM Government Lord Clinton-Davis, Minister for Trade, was the host at a reception given by Her Majesty Government yesterday at Lancaster House, to mark the 25th anniversary of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Church of Scotland The Rev Eric J. Alexander, from St George's Tron, Glasgow. The Rev W.M.D. Thompson, from Crailing and Ecklord with Oxnam with Roxburgh.

The Rev William Brown,

Polwarth, Edinburgh,

The Rev James Anderson, from O'Neill, Kincardine.

The Rev Charles S. Morrice, from

Church services for Christmas Eve

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 5 E & Blessing of the crib, Sumsion in A; 11.30 Midnight Euch in St Mark's Church.

BANGOR CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Boreol Weddi: I Cymun Bendigaid; 530 Hwyrol Weddi; II.IS Midnight Euch.

RELEAST CATHEDRAL: 8 Service of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Euch, Darke in F. BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP. 9.15 HC; 3.30 EP; 5.30 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Ding Dong Ding (Woodward), Canon G O'Neill.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 11.30 Midnight BRECON CATHEDRAL: 3.30 Blessing of the Crib and E, Whittock in G, A: O little town of Bethlehem (Walford Davies), On Christmas Night all Christians sing (Vaughan Williams). BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: 8.40 M; 12.30 HC;

3.30 Nine Lessons & Carols sung by Cathedral Choir; 11.30 Midnight Euch. CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Rite A: 11 Crib Service, Rev Dr M. J Chandler; 3 Carol Service; 5 E. Ireland in F.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL 3 Crib Service; 6.30 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Darke in F, Canon D Weston CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 8.45 MP: 12.35 HC; 4 Crib Service; 6 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Mass. Agnus Dei & Carols, Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm), Bishop of Chelmsford.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 3.30 Cathedral Choir Service; 5.30 Children's Crib Service, Sussex Carol (Vaughan Williams): 11.30 Euch.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8, L10 HC. 4.15 Blessing of the Crib; 5.30 E, Sumsion in G, Lowe came down at Christmas (Rutter); 10.45 Vigil of Music & Readings; 11.30 Michight Euch, Sumsion in F, The Chancellor.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oubline-Midnight: The First Eucharist of Christmas, Langlais, Messe Solumelle.

HRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 3 CORK CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 11.15 S Euch,

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.30 Ecumenia

Service: 9 MP: 12.40 Midday Prayer: 3.30 Children's Service "Journey to Bethlehem": 7 Liturgy. DERBY CATHEDRAL: 5 Said EP; 6.30 Restival of Nine Lessons & Carols, II.30 Euch, Ireland in C. Prelude and Pugue in C major

(Bach), Canon S Barby. DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 7.30 HC; 9 MP & L: 12.30 HC; 3 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols: 5.15 EP.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M & L: 8 HC: 6.30 E & Procession with Carols, Stanford in G: 11.30 Ench & Carols, Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm). GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 3.30 Family Carol Service & lighting of the tree; 6 Carol Service with blessing of the crib.

Christmas Service, 11.45 Midnight Euch, Missa Brevis (Fibich). HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 3 Family Service; 5.30 Ch E.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 4 Children's

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL 7.40 MP: 8 HC: 4 Pestival of Nine Lessons & Carols, Prelude and Rogue in B major (Dupré); 11.30 S Buch, Darke in F, A little child (Flemish). The holly and the lvy (Walford Davies), Bishop of Leicester. LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 9.30 HC; 5.30 E.

Collegium Regale (Howells), Tomorrow shal be my dancing day (Willcocks): 6.30 Blessing of the crib: 11.30 Midnight Mass. LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M & L; 8 HC; 3.15 E.P. 4 Carol Service attended by The Mayor and The Bishop: 11.30 Midnight Euch & blessing of the crib.

LIANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30, 9.15 Euch: 3.30 Nine Lessons & Carols; 6 Solemn E; 9.30 Midnight Mass & S Euch with blessing of the crib. Burton in F. MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 11.30 S

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 6 Carol Service; 11.30 Euch, Missa S Joannis de Den (Haydn), Silent Night (Hone & Little), What sweeter music can we bring (Rutter), Canon I

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 3 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, The Lord at Brst did Adam, make (Ferguson), Away in a manger (Moore), Star of the mystic East (Rubbra); 11.30 Christ-

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 12 Crib Service; 3
Christmas Carol Service; 6 Procession with
Carols, Upi Good Christen Folk, and Listen
(Woodward), See the child [Rutter],
Benedicanus Domino (Warlock); Il.15 Midnight Euch, Adam lay y-bounden (Ord), Quelle
est cette odeur agrecable (Willcocks), The Bishop. PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 4 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 5.30 E; 8 Carols with the Salvation Army Band; 11.45 Solemn Each, Schubert in G.

PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 4 Children's crib Service, 11.30 Midnight Mass, St Nicholas' Mass (Haydn), The Bishop. RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch: 830 M: IL

Euch & Blessing of the Crib; 530 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Euch. CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.30 HC; 8 M 3.15 E & blessing of the crib, Stanford in G, Noel Nouveler (Jackson): 11.30 Midnight Mass, Messe Solennelle (Langlais).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 530 Ch E: IL30

SHEFFTELD CATHEDRAL: 5.45 EP: 7 Nine

Lessons & Carols: 11.30 Midnight Euch.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 4 Carols at the crib; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Schubert in G, God is with us (Tavener), In the bleak midwinter (Darke). The Bishop of Southwark. SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 HC; 8 MP: 12.15 HC; 3.15 ES, Stanford in G. A. Zion hears the watchmen's voices (Bach); 4.30 Blessing of the Crib; 7 Service of Nine Lessons & Carols: 11.45 Midnight Euch, Sumsion in F. In the bleak

mid winter (Darke). TRURO CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 1 HC; 5.30 EP; 7 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Stanford in C & F, Sussex arol (Ledger), Silent Night (Morley), The hancellor.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 5 Family Service with Cathedral Choir; 11 Procession Midnight Mass. Messe de Minuit

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 3 Blessing of the Crib; 11.30 Midnight Euch, Ireland in C. WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8, 1230 HC; 3.30 ES; 4 Service of Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Euch, Darke in F, The Dean.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 4.15 Sol Vespers, Magnificat octavi toni (Bevan); 530 Vigil Mass; 11.15 Vigil & Michight Mass, Missa brevis (Kodály), Hodie Christus natus est (Schütz), Quem vidistis pastores (Pouleuc). WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 3 Children's Service; 5.30 E with blessing of the crib. Dyson m E minor, Silent night (Gruber): 11.30 Midnight Euch, Messe Solennelle (Widor), In

YORK MINSTER: 7.30 M: 7.50 HC: 11 Crib service; 3 EP; 4 Service of Lessons & Carols. ST ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL, Hertfordshire:

MP; 7.30, 11.30 HC; 3 The crib service; 5 E; 8 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols. ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL, Aberdeen 11 30 Midnight Euch, Darke in F. Riu Riu Chiu (Spanish traditional carol)

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 7 Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Ch Euch, Gabriel's Message (Pettman), Rev K Goulstone. ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL, Pembs: 7.30 MP; 8 Cymun Bendigaid: 10 HC; 6 EP; 11.30 Euch. Schubert in G. Away in a manger (Willcocks), The little road to Bethlehem (Head), The Dean. ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & HC; II HC, Canon D Pearce, 4 Crib Service; 5 E; 7 Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight S

Euch, Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm). ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 7.30, 12.30 Mass; 3.30 Children's Crib Service; 1] 30 Midnight Solemn Mass of the Nativity, Archbishop M Bowen.

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL OIL Aberdeen: Upm Festival Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. ST'LMARYS CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh:

7.30pm Service of Nine Lessons & Carols; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Missa Sancti Johannes de Deo ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, Glasgow: 9.30 MP. LIS Euch; 5.30 EP. II.30 S Euch, 4 part service (Byrd). The Sussex Carol (Wilcox), Rev J L Bell.

ST PATRICKS CATRIEDRAL Dublin: 4 Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL 7.30 M & L. 8, 12.30 HC, 2.30 E, 4 Christmas Carol Service & Blessing of the Crib; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Messe de Minuit (Charpenier).

ALL SAINTS, WI: 11 Midnight Mass, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Hayda). ALL SOULS. Wi: Illum Christmas C, Rev R Trist. THE ASSUMPTION, WI: 11.30pm Carols, Missa solemnis in C (Mozart).

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOT-LAND, WC2: ILIS MS; 6.30 ES, Rev S Hood. FARM STREET, WI: 6pm Mass; 11.30 Carols; 12 Midnight Mass. HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, 5W7: 1L30

HOLY TRINTTY CHURCH, SWI: 1130 Midnight Mass in the Lady Chapel, Mozart in G, Rev M Marshall. THE ORATORY, SW7: 6 Vigil Mass; 11.30

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist): 11.15 Midnight C in the Great Hall, Rev Dr P Graves. ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 7 Family Catol Service by candlelight, Rev G Neumann; 11 Candlelight Ch Euch, Rev P D Schmiege.

Midnight Mass & Carols, Coronation Mass (Mozart), For unto us a child is born (Handel).

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, ECI: 12.30 HC, 11.45pm, Midright Mass of the Nativity, Missa Brevis in F (Mozard, Hodie Christus mans est (Poulenc), Alma Redemptonis

ST BRIDE'S, ECA: 11.30 Candlelit Midnight Mass, Mozart in B flat.

ST CLEMENT DANES, WC2:)1.30 Ch Euch, Missa Brevis S Joannis de Deo (Haydn), A spotless rose (Howells), Rev D MacKennie. ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOT-LAND, SWI: 11.30pm Candlelight Service. ST ETHELDREDA'S, ECI: 8.30pm Latin Mass in Old Rite; 11.30 Carols & Midnight Mass, Schubert in B flar.

ST JAMES'S, W2: 11.30 Midnight Mass, Missa Brevis in C (Mozart), Rev D Lawson. ST JAMES'S, WI: 10.15 Meditative preparation for Midnight Mass; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Rev

D Reeves ST JOHN'S, Els: Il Midnight C, Toccato (Widor), Rev D Richards. ST LUKE'S, SW3: 4 Crib Service for Young Children: 11.30 Midnight Euch.

ST MARK'S, NWI: 11.30 Midnight Mass, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Rev T Devon-

ST MARGARET'S, SWI: IL45 Midnight Euch. Schubert in G. Canon D Gray. ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 630 Carol Service, Rev D Monteith; 11.30 Midnight Mass, Rev C Herbert: 11 ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, W& 3 Children's Crib Service; 4.30 E; 11.30 Midnight lass. The Bishop of Ken

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, NW3: 7.30 Euch; 6.30pm Christingle Service, 11.30 Midnight ST MARYLEBONE, NWI: 11.30 Midnight Mass, Schubert in C, Frohlocket ihr Volken auf Erden (Mendelssohn), Prof J Caldwell.

ST PAUL'S, SWI: 5 Children's Service & Blessing of the crih, Canon R Royle; 11.30 Midnight Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart), Hodie Christus natus est (Sweelinck), Rev W

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HIM Tower of London:11.30 Midnight HC, Setting by John Merbecke.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley St. WI: Ilpm Carols, St Nicholas Mass (Haydn), Christmas Proclamation (Taverner), For unto us a child is born (Handel), in dulcio jobilo (Bach), Rev S J Hobbs; IL30 Euch. GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SWI: 11.15pm Carols at the Manger; 11.30 Midnight HC, Missa Poer Nanus est Nobis (Tallis).

Marriages

Torrid Ashtown and Mary Princess of Pless The marriage took place, very quietly, on December 17, between Nigel Trench and Mary Pless, daughter of the late Colonel and Mrs Minchin, formerly of Busherstown, Co Tipperary. Mr A.T. Borthwick and Miss C.J. Cox

The marriage took place on Saturday, December 13, at Borthwick Parish Church, Midlothian, between Mr Alistair Borthwick, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Donald Borthwick, and Miss Caroline Cox, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Cox. The Reverend Dr McPake, of the Church of Scotland, solemnised the

marriage.
The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Beatrix and Maxine Cox. Mr Derek Borthwick was best man. A reception was held at Borthwick Castle, and the honey-

moon is being spent abroad. Lt Col A.W. Scott Elliot and Miss F.G. Fuller-Shapcott
The marriage took place quietly,
on Sanurday, December 20, at
Lauder Old Parish Church, Berwickshire, between Scott Elliot and Gail Fuller-

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.J. Boyle and Dr C. Gorrara The engagement is announced between Joe, second son of Mr and Mrs Martin Boyle, of Cambridge, and Claire, elder daughter of Umberto and Jacqueline Gorrara,

of Hanworth. Lieutenant A. Lavcock, RN, and Miss J-A.S. Cole The engagement is announced between Antony, son of Mr and Mrs George Laycock, of Ossett, ... and Jo-Ann, daughter of Mr and ...

4.

Mrs Alan Cole, of Guildford. Mr P.G. Oates and Miss A.P. Foulis The engagement is announced between Patrick, elder son of Mr and Mrs T.D. Oates, of Ratoath. Co Meath, Eire, and Alexandra, younger daughter of Major and Mrs J.A. Foulis, of York.

Latest wills

Rupert Jesse Britcher, of London SW7, left estate valued at £2,166,771 net.

He left E100,000 to the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arty Societies, E10,000 each to St Joseph's Hospice, London E8, St Andrew's Carholic Church, Tenterden, Kent, and Glyndebourne Arts Trust; E5,000 each to Friends of the National Collections of Ireland, title Sisters of the Poor, London Chapter of the Lists Georgian Society and Society for the Protection of Unborn Children; E2,000 to Brompton Oratory.

Patricia Oakley, of Bakewell, Derbyshire, left estate valued at .' El 228,895 net.

El Z28,575 net.

John Edward Price, of Crickhowell, Powys, left estate valued at
El,666,741 net.

He left £40,000 to the Thrombosis
and General Research Fund, of
El0,000 each to Urology Fund, of
Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenoy,
Moannourishire, North Gwear Cardlac Rehabilitation and Aftercare
Pund, and the RNIL; E5,000 to both
St Catweys Church, Liangattock, near
Crickhowell; Powys, and St
Padminds Church, Crickhowell; Crickhowell, Powys, and Edmund's Church, Crickhow £3,000 each to Crickhowell Cri Club, Crickhowell Rugby C Crickhowell Socer Club and Greenhill Residential Home. Elaine Joan Rebak, company

director, of London No. left estate valued at £1,060,281 net. Frank Robinson, of Cossall, Nottinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,001,776 net.

George Robert Scott, of Terrington St John, Wisbech, Cambridge

shire, left estate valued at £1,431,880 net. Richard Mervyn Smith, of Sheffield, South Yorkshire, left estate valued at £1,383,132 net.

Hugh Marshall Stowell, of Clevedon, North Somerset, left sestate valued at £1,676,186 net Rosamund Mary Von Pokorny, of Callow End, Worcestershire, left

estate valued at £1,022,340 net.
She left £2,000 to the Combined Theatrical Charities.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000.

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PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

suddenly but pencefully at home on Thursday 18th home on Thursday 18th December Beloved wife of the late Anthony, much loved mother of Susan and Jane, and devoted drendmother to Toule

fonumi survice will haid at 8t Anne's, Dropmore, on Monday 29th December at Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, P O Box 122, 61 Lincolns Im Field, WC2A 3FZ.

MAISUREON - On December 19th 1997 John Leslie, dearly loved husband of Man and loving father of Anne, Hilary, James and Sman, Service at S Peter's, Reveistoke, Noss Mayo, Dawn, on 20th Dawn, on 20th

Action of action

Whiley - Vermon Joseph on 20th December 1997. Inaxpectedly in hospital. Dearly loved husband of Rosins (Rosis), father, grandfather and friend. Formul Savice Wednesday December 31st 11 am ar All Saints Church, Elm Wood

Saints Church, Eim v Road, Faling Common, followed by pri

dy Punemi Ser ng Crimmtorius 2nd 11.20

January Pamily

<u> </u>						 _		
Anyone who does not stand by					_=			
the teaching about Christ, but goes beyond it, does not possess God; he who stands	BIRTHS	DEATHS					<u> </u>	
ph it homesser purp the	MADEL - On December 17th at	BOOM - Robald Edward, Major	DANDRIDGE - On December	FORSTER - Isa Robson	HIRSEY - Helen Touties, sister	AURES - On December 18th	MYCHELSKA - Countries Home to	SHANKS - Andrew (ade Moore)
Father and the Son. 2 John 9.	The Portland Hospital, to	meddenly on 19th December	21st peacefully at home	peacefully at Trinity	of Dukie and sunt of lumes	William (Mill) aged 66 years	her hundredth year, on 19th	died peacefully after a short
	Rochelle and Kenny, a	in his South wear. Husband of t	Betty Litims (nee Cole) aged	Transless on 10th Property	and Katherine, pescafully in	of Devauden, Chepstow.	December in São Faulo,	Uness on 21st December.
DIDTHE	daughter, Isabelle, a sister	the late Susan much loved	76 of Bowcombe, Kinoshridos, South Devon.	1997, beloved Vicer of R	her sleep on December 19th. Funeral, Service, Monday	Beloved kustend of Any, devoted father of Susan and	Benefit Mother of Kilos and	Loving mother of Other Will
BIRTHS	for Miles and Charlotte.	father and grandfather. Funeral at St Peter's Church.	Enquiries to J& G Percett, 15	Phillips . Church, Ouesestown Road, SW8.	December 29th Boly Trinity	John, Alison and Pay, dendy	the late Joseph, grandmother of Lela and Great-	be fondly remembered by family and many friends.
	PATEL - On 17th December at The Portland Hosnital, to	Upper Skughter on Saturday 27th December at 2.30 pm.	Duncombe Street,	Loving busband of Ann. and	Chromels, Cockfield, Season at	John, Alison and Pav, dendy leved granded of Tom, Max,	grandmother of loanse and	Service at Worth
ALLOTT - On December 17th at	Missch and Bels, a daughter,	27th December at 230 yrs.	Kingsbridge, tel: (01548)	affectionate father of John,	12 noon. No flowers by	Kinsty and joe, much loved son of josie, Funeral Survice	Josef.	Cremetorium on 29th December 1997 at 3 pm, At
The Fortland Hospital, to Christa D'Soura and Nick	Noess.	Family flowers only.	852302.	Tite and Jane. Funeral Service at St Philling Chunck	in lies to ESPCA, London	Wednesday December 24th	•	her request no flowers but
Allott, 2 son, Flynn Cocat.	NOWSE - On 18th December,	Peter's Church c/o W.J.	· '	on Monday 29th December 1997 at 11 am, followed by	Road, Patchem, Brighton.	12 moon at the Forest of	PARSONS - John William CHE.	dopations in lieu if desired
ATKINSON - Michael and	to Tarm (note Shepard) and Julian, two some, Max Glass	Wright, Puneral Director,	DENYER - Major Michael Hagh	1997 at 11 am, followed by	HUTCHISON - Zele Chetrynd	Deen Cremetorium. Pemily flowers only, donations if so	aged 61 years, Suddenly on	to RMLL clo Puller & Scott,
Rebecca (nee Hicks) are	THE CHART DEADS AND ADDRESS.	Well Lane, Stow-on-the- Wold, GL54 IDG.	(RM red) died on 19th	private demetion at Painey Vale Crematorium, Stage	peacefully on 19th December 1997 after a short	desired for the Toubleuts of	20th December, 1997. Beloved Imsburd of Selly-	The Wateryns, Uckfield East Sussex, TN22 1AJ, Tel:
delighted with the safe	first birthday present for		December. Puneral at St Thomas à Becket,	Lame, \$W15 at 1.30 pm.	iliness at Ashley House	Rectrical Regiment made payable to IEE, Senefactors	Anne Mil mach lovel father	(01825) 763241.
on December 20th at	sister Buily. BALBA - On December 17th at	SOYDEL - Michael of Plas	Warblington, Hants, on 29th December at 10.45 mg.	Family flowers only. Denotions to lan's favourite	Number Home, Chrencuster,	payable to LEE, Senetacions	of Tassin, Kitt, Timothy, Dominic and Victoria]
Ge <u>ildford,</u> Serrey.	The Portland Hospital, to	Onn. Negowys, Mold.	December at 10.45 au.	charities c/o E Latner & Son.	aged 91. Formerly of the Hong Kong and Skanghai	Trust Fund may be sent to Mr S. Riding Phasmos Branch L.E.E., Michael Paraday	Dearest grandfather.	
BAWARY - On December 18th	Souheil and Regina, a	pencefully at home with his	·.	0171-223 5432.	Banking Corporation. Husband of the late Beaths:	I.B.R., Michael Paraday	Dearest grandfather. Thunksgiving Service in the Church of St Edward the	STEWARD - Helen Barbara
at The Portland Hospital, to Mehreen (née Odho) and	beautiful daughter, Sempelle Made.	family on 18th December. Tel: (01352) 700266.	· ·		Husband of the late Beaths	House, 6 Hills Way,	Charch of St Edward the	MRE, suddenly at Battle
Almed Ebrahim, a daughter,	SEVELE - On Subsective 13th	12 (01012) FOREST		FRIEND - Bernard suddenly	Sutchison and much loved ! father of Christopher,	Storminge, Hortz. SGI, 24Y. Fundant empairies to Philip	on Pricey 2nd Support, 1998	Hospital, Reading on
Arzandak.	Security 1907 a densities		DOIG - Very Reverend Dr.	passed away on 21st December 1997. A lovely	Michael and Joseph Personal	Matchiy & See. 5 Station	at 230 pm. No flowers by	Wednesday 17th December. She will be sadly missed
BERARRA - Cu December 16th	for Andrew and Valurie (mit	BURDETT - Stella Mary,	Andrew Beveridge pencefully at Dandes Royal	husband of Sally, devoted.	Service at St Peter's Church,	Lond, Chepstow. Tel: Chepstow 624939.	Martyz, Corde Cartie, Dorset on Friday 2nd January, 1998 at 2:30 pm. No flowers by request please. Donations to the, "Sudyture Valor", may	both by her many cousins of
at The Portland Hospital, to Dinna, a beautiful daughter,	Gillies) and Kilida Lorna at Ayrabire Cantral Hospital.	landscape artist of Portishend, Somerset, Gled	Infirmary on Sunday	father of Edward, Shaon and	Chencester, on Wednesday 31st December at 11 am.		be sent to Albert March	several generations and
Isabel	assessor - On December 19th	December 21st after a long	December 21st 1997 after a	Summe, and proud grandfather of Etholies and Ctiver.	JOHES - Joan Marie aged 66	LOMER - Suddenly on December 19th, 1997,	(Funeral Directors) Ltd. St	numerous good friends. Thankegiving Service at
BUCKONGHAM - On December	1007 or Maldetone Housital	Ulness, at the home of her	short illness. Andrew, beloved heatend of Burbura,	Other.	years. Formerly of	Richard Godfrey (Bick)	Michaels Road, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 40U, Tel:	Kerenham Church at
12th at The Fortland Hospital, to Assands and	to Summe (hác Porter) and Paul, a besutiful daughter,	sister Dalce Laurence, St. Margaret's, Twickenham.	helowed father of Peter.		Fotterspury, Northants. Mother of Linda, Haine and	Lomer, MC, aged 75. Beloved husband of Patricia and	01929 - 562107.	11.30am on Friday 2nd
Christopher, a daughter,	Rebecca Louise, a	Loringly remembered by her	isobelle and Arms, Repu to	HADDON - On December 20th	Alyson. Peacefully on Priday	hysband of Patricia and father of Charles and		Jasuary, will follow the private cremation. No
Amelia juna		foolly.	limbelle and Arne, Repu to Vikid, Alex, Jess and Michael and father in law to Jamet,	in hospital aged 80 years	Alyson, Pescefully on Friday 19th December 1997, Nexus Member, Ex Alps Employee, Yoluntary Postmistress at	Jocalyn. Puneral Service 12		flowers please. Donations if desired to the British Red
Deserts - On December 20th,	Jean, John and Patsy.		Tring and Scient True withhirt	Harold Bryan Haddon of Hkley, Dearly loved and	Voluntary Postmistress at	Joseph. Funeral Service 12 noon on Monday, December 29th, at Holy Trinity,	PRELIES - Edward died on 21st	desired to the British Red
to Journe and Geoffrey, a son, Dominic, amother	21st 1997, to Jane (nee		touched the lives of many	caring husband of Sylvin.	S.B.P. The Punchal Service (Chantry. Penalty flowers	December 1997, after a	Cross Society Oxfordships c'o Tomelia & Son, Anderson
Lincoln City Supporter.	Wolstenholme) and Noole, a	CALDICOTT - David on 18th December, at home near	with companion and gence. His warmth and gentle	Peneral arrangements later.	will take place on Monday 29th December 1997 at	cely.	short illness. Pather of America, Charles, Laura and	House, 38 Reading Road.
merma - On December 4th #	darling son, Thomas Henry.	Rigin, after illness	periods were set legs to ye		Crownhill Crematorium.		Rachel, Grandfather of	Henley-on-Thames, Oxforishire, BQ9 1AG
The Developed Hospital, UI	TOTTON - On 17th December,	hashand of Hope, father of	children and friends, less percetally in God's care.	HENMAH - Richard died	Militar Keynes at 120 pm. Suguiries should be directed.	MOREAN - Dying Graffyed, former University Lecturer	Sarah, Patie, Miles, Edward, Botis, Natashe, Max. Cyrns.	, <u></u>
has (Sand) and Michael, a	to Lauriane (née Castaing) and Anthony, a sea, Louis	Stephen, Belen and Crispin,	Puneral Service at North	September 12th 1997	to: H. W. Mason & Sons. 68a	- in Applied Plant Physiology	and Mile, Private funeral in	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
daughter, Amy Anne.	David.	and grandfather of Pluns,	Church, Perth, on Monday	pencefully at home after an	Wolverton Road, Stony	and Sunior Tutor of St John's	Switzenhad, The Memorial]	1.
	TRAFFORD - On 12th	Liddle and Thomas Burning	December 29th at 12 noon, to which all friends are	. Illness coungeously borne	Stratford, Milton Leynes, MK11 1DT Tel: 01908	College, Cambridge, died peacefully on 18th	Service will be amounced at	
Charan (mis Bisley) 300 i	December 1997, to Kattle	for medical research; donations, if desired, to	invited and thereafter to	aged 46 years.	561561.	December after a long	a later data.	Cator) died pencefully on
	(nde Davies) and James, a daughter, Hannah India	Canour or Heart charities.	Fonab Cametery, Philochry.			illness. Dear husband of		Cator) died pencefully on Priday December 19th aged
daughter, Madeleine Lify.	Estie a sister to Hage.	Thanksolving Service to be	Pamily flowers only places.	HERTFORD - Hugh Edward	NALESTE - Anna (Nussy) on December 14th 1997 and	Class and futher of John and Rowin, A. Mamorial, Service		90. Personal in Color-modico
The Portland Hospital, to	TYPER - On December 18th, to	arminged.		Conway Seymout - Marquess	89 died at home. Greatly	will be arranged at a later	NOUSE - On December 22nd	at 2.15 pm on Monday December 29th, followed by
The Case Lerials 1 and 1	Caroline (née Horsburgh)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	of Hartford - of Ragley Hall, Waterickshire, died sociotaly	tedant by her 2 children, 7	date.	1997 Arthur Bouss, MRE. IP,	Cremetica.
David, a son, Opcar Benjamin	and Rupert, a daughter,	CASELEY - On December 18th	DOWE - Eric Scott on Priday,	on December 22nd 1997.	guardchildren and 3 great-	1	Regiment (ret'd), Principal	
- Ten.	Imogen Flora Charlotte. A sister for Emily and Abigail.	1997, at Ashurst Park	19th December 1997,		designation .	Beloved husband of the lace	Westholme . School	
HACKER - On December 12th	warniaW - On December i	Naming Home, Tunbridge Walls, Resumend Caseley	peacefully after a short libest, in Kingston Hospital	HOLMES - Sir Maurice.	LEWYS-LLOYD - On December	Helen. Died percefully on	Blackbern 1950 - 1976. Funeral service at St Mine	
at The Fortland Hospital, to Figna (née Grean) and	18th. to Catherine (nee	1.DS. Edin. 1922 aged 97	aged 80, Sedly such a brief	Barrister at Law, died	21st at Beach House, Wittell	Heign. Died peacefully on December 21st. Much loved	Church, Blackburn on	1
	Entherford) and lames, a	vente. Pormerly of	time in his new flat where he	pencetully in his sleep on	Mids Wyn Lewis-Lloyd CLR	father of Son and Ametra	Tuesday 30th December	TAYLOR - Peacefully on V
and a daughter, Georgina	son, Angus James, a brother for Beaedlet and Sophie.	Whitehurch on Thumes, ar.	was so happy. Very, very	21st December, surrounded	0.5.E., aged 92 years, husband of the late Eathless	and gendfather of Gavin, Toby, Philip and Tim.	1997 at 2 pm. Ho Street, but, despited to	December 20th 1997, Lois
Cavach. 1		Panghourne, Berks, and	husband of the last Patricia.	by loving care. Dearly loved hashand of Joyce (Josy) for	(née Haworth), father of	Penetal Service to take place	· N.S.F.C.C., 40, Wellington	Mary, aged 87, a week loved wife and mother, Puneral
REL - On December 20th at Queen Charlotte's and		Tastman Rental Respital	father of Hilary, father-in-	62 years and much loved	Delyth and John, grandfather	at Robin Hood Cremetorium	Street. (St Tober's)	private. No flowers please.
Chelsen Hospital, to Fawzin (King) and Andrew, a son.	in memoriam —	and The Bospital for Mack Children, Great Ormond	inw of Peter and "Roppe" to	uncle of Chris, Sandy, David	of Christopher, Gazeth, Teckl. Ann. Delvth and Carys.	on Monday January 5th at	Blackburn, BS1 SAF, A Thunksgiring Service will be held at St. Silns Church,	but donations in Here for the
(Kine) and Andrew, a son.	PRIVATE	Children, Great Ormond Street Peneral at Terrinide	Edward and Clairs. Peneral to be hald at Putney Valo	and James. Chairman of Tilling Association,	Puneral Service at Caldy	Zym. Plowers, or denotions for liverythin Japonel, for the	hald at St. 50mm Character	Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund will be received and
Thomas Moves Server	ا تصنیحیت	Wells Crematorium on	Crematorium on Monday	Chairman of London	Cherch, Whent, on Monday	for Everymen Appeal, for the Research and Treatment of	Blackbern at 12-30 per on	acknowledged by PC Durant I
LENGH - On 17th December to	HARMSON - Dex FEIDA Gled	Tenestry 30th December at	29th December at 3 pm.	Transport and Circuit	Church, Whenl, on Monday December 29th at 2.30 pm. All enquiries to Quinna 1/5,	Prosteto Cancer to Thomas	Priday 30th January, 1998.	& Son, Peneral Disectors, 7
Shells (Bée Cook) America	25/12/87. You are always to	10.30 at Flowers to E.P.	Family flowers only. All enquiries to Fredk W. Paine.	Administrator. Private Cremerica Memorial Service	West Lithy, tak (0151) 625-	Roug & Sons, 562 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solibull 190	Inquiries, The Alty Puneral Service, Witton, Reactions.	Leigh Edid. Wimborns.
Rost Pitzmaurice, 1 sister for	our hearts. Each, Jonathan	Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Turbeidge Wells.	tet (0181) 946-1974.	at a later date.	5274	4AT.	Tet - 01254 51251	Dorset BH21 1AB. Tel: 01202 882936.
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THE MARQUESS OF HERTFORD

The 8th Marquess of Hertford died yesterday aged 67 after a brain tumour. He was born on March 29, 1930.

ike many aristocrats of his gener ation, the 8th Marquess of Hertford dedicated his life to his corner of British history: Ragley Hall at Alcester in Warwickshire. As his wife

said. "Ragley Hall is a life sentence."

Ragley is a fine Palladian house built in the 1680s, noted especially for James Gibbs's 70ft Great Hall. Although he had to sell parts of an estate that originally included 8,000 acres of prime farmland. the 5th Marquess managed to pass on the house as an independent concern, by faith and love" (as the family motto urges) but only just. The house very nearly became one more victim of the inheri-tance-tax trap which stripped many families of the means to maintain their properties. In a letter to The Times, the marquess once protested at the prevailing postwar antipathy to the idea of passing on an inheritance for one's children to improve "I do not understand, and I deeply resent, the fact that no Conservative politician now attempts to defend the

interests of the next generation." Hugh Edward Conway Seymour was the son of Brigadier-General Lord Henry Charles Seymour, the second son of the 6th Marquess. His mother was Lady Helen Frances Grosvenor, daughter of

the Duke of Westminster. After Eton and the Grenadier Guards, he succeeded his uncle in 1940, and found that he had inherited a costly asset. Ragley Hall has 80, or 100, or 115 rooms depending whom you believe - and throughout the war it was used as a hospital. The family was confined to small quarters, where Lady Helen kept a bathful of hand-grenades as a last redoubt against invading Germans. As a result, during the 1950s the marquess spent a great deal of time repairing the fabric of the house, which had not been fully occupied since 1912.

In 1956 he married the Contesse Louise de Caraman Chimay, and they set about putting the house in order so as to open it to the public (initially at half-a-crown a time). They found gorgeous drapery rotting on the walls and beautiful furniture stacked in back rooms. Also in need of upkeep were 24 acres of garden, a maze, a park with a cricket pitch and a lake, a nature trail and an adventure wood. The marquess wrote a guidebook himself, and the Hall opened to the public in the summer of 1958. So beguiling are the house and its setting that 40,000 people visited in the first few months, even though the peacocks would eat the pinks.

Anxious that this new source of income be maintained, Lord Hertford began looking for new attractions. In France on honeymoon he and his wife had been impressed with a son et lumière display, and this was duly tried at Ragley, with a commentary spoken by Michael Redgrave. Horse trials and water-skiing dis-



plays were held on the estate, and later attractions at the house were to include a display of crowns and jewels labelled as authentic replicas".

The marquess's principal interest for much of his life was necessarily in managing the estate, but he also enjoyed some other ancestral perks. One of his forebears had bought the 13th-century Conway Castle from Charles I, and when the castle was subsequently rented in the 19th century it was on condition that the Marquess of Hertford be given "a dish of fish... whenever he passes through the town". Accordingly, Lord Hertford made a point of passing through, and was presented with a 5lb salmon by the mayor.

Despite the enormous popularity of country-house visiting, by the mid-1960s he was "gradually coming round" to offering the family seat to the National Trust. But then in June 1964 he dropped a bombsheli. "Ragiey Hall to be demolished reported The Times. "It is a dreadful decision, but a final one. The house will remain open until the end of September. During the winter preparations will begin to pull it down and build a smaller house." At the time the house would have needed little pulling: it was all including the UFO-spotter Lady Buchan-an-Jardine, who points at the sky but fails to interest even a frescoed spaniel. Lord Hertford himself appears twice, once as naked Neptune sitting in a large shell. The odd-job man who walked in while he was posing was most affronted. In 1968 the marquess was given £40,000

by the Ministry of Housing for improve-ments to the public areas of the house. He began with new plumbing and wiring, lest the rooms be flooded or burnt down. The need was pressing enough, for as he said, "every time we plug the vacuum in, everything gets red hot".

The marquess, who was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Warwickshire in 1959, was for some years a member of the historic houses committee of the British Tourist Authority, and then president of the West Midlands Tourist Board. In particular, he successfully campaigned against the building of a motorway link-road across his land. "I don't believe tourists will continue coming to England just to see motorways - which they can see at home," he said. On the other hand,

he began quarrying for sand and gravel. During the general election of 1970, he caused a stir, as an active Tory peer, by urging Conservatives in Enoch Powell's constituency to vote Labour, because he abhorred and was appalled by Powell's

attitude to immigration.

By the end of the 1970s, 118,000 visitors were coming to the house, but they were spending only 91p a head. And there were occasional problems of disappearing artefacts - a clock, tables, silver - during opening hours or from the commercial dinners in the Great Hall. Fourteen engraved sherry glasses were purloined in 1985 by visiting Americans, but recovered in the London Hilton.

History at Ragley Hall goes back well before the 17th century, for Alcester was once a Roman settlement. Roman remains on Hertford's land were scheduled as an ancient monument in 1962, and he was awarded £100,000 compensation, but in 1985 two fields were ploughed up. Remains just below the surface were inadvertently damaged, and the marquess was fined £4,000 after a prosecution brought by English Heritage.

During the 1990s the marquess and his wife became estranged, and she moved to a William and Mary cottage on the estate. Earlier this year, the marquess publicly disagreed with William Hague about the Conservative Party's abandonment of the hereditary principle, when he argued pragmatically that the peers' experience played a valuable part in the legislature. together with a peerage, you have inherited a large country estate, you have to learn a lot about farming, forestry, maintenance of houses and conversion of

farm buildings," he said. "Many of us have learnt a lot about the tourist trade." He is survived by his wife and their son and three daughters. His son, the Earl of Yarmouth, who took over Ragley Hall in 1991, succeeds to the title as the 9th Marquess.

BRUCE WOODCOCK



Woodcock (left) on his way to defeat against Jack Gardner in 1950

Bruce Woodcock, boxer, died in Doncaster yesterday aged 76. He was born on January 18, 1921.

THE death of Bruce Woodcock, the British heavyweight boxing champion from 1945 until 1950, marks the end of what was a golden age of boxing in this country. At the end of the last war, the sport boomed, with fighters like Woodcock. Freddie Mills (the former light heavyweight champion of the world at a time when there was only one world champion for every weight). Peter Kane, Jackie Paterson and Eric Boon all still active in the ring. This period also saw the rise of Randolph Turpin, whose career culminated in 1951 when he beat "Sugar" Ray Robinson for the world's middleweight title. But it was Woodcock, the Doncaster railwayman, who drew the crowds to Harringay, then the favourite venue of the cigar-smoking promoter Jack Solomons.

Bruce Woodcock was a small heavyweight who weighed little more than 1312 stone. Had he been fighting today, he ould have undoubtedly Cruiserweight championship of the world, a weight level that then did not exist. Today's heavyweights are mastodons by comparison, often weighing-in at 17 stone or more. Woodcock won the Amateur Boxing Association's light heavyweight championship twice during the war. As a railwayman in the Doncaster Locomotive works of the LNER, he was in a reserved occupation. He turned professional in 1942 and won his first 19 fights by knockouts. In July 1945 he knocked out Jack London (the father of Brian London) to win the British

He won four more fights inside the distance when, in 1946, he was matched against the much more experienced, and larger American heavyweight contender Tami Mauriello at Madison Square Gardens. New York. It was a dreadful example of over-matching by his manager, Tom Hurst, and Woodcock, having won the first four rounds by good use of his left jab, was knocked out in the fifth by a right hand from the Italian-American. It was his first defeat and a significant one. Woodcock was at least two years away from being a contender for the title (then held by Joe Louis) and should have been brought along more carefully on a diet of less formidable Americans. Woodcock was back in the ring in

and Empire title.

London in less than a month after his defeat when he outpointed Freddie Mills. Woodcock then won the European heavyweight title by knocking out Albert Renet of France in the sixth round. On September 17, 1946, Woodcock was matched with the then light heavyweight champion of the world, Gus Lesnevich, at Harringay Arena.

This was a sensible match as Woodcock outweighed Lesnevich by a stone. After an exciting contest which had 12,000 people on their feet cheering, Woodcock knocked out Lesnevich in the eighth round. It was the high spot of the Doncaster man's career.

Woodcock won three more fights inside

the distance, defending his European title against the tough French-Pole, Stephan Olek. The ever-optimistic Tom Hurst then matched Woodcock against another American heavyweight every bit as formidable as Mauriello, the giant Pennslyvanian coal miner, Joe Baksi. Baksi broke Woodcock's jaw with a left hook thrown in the first round, but the Englishman fought back bravely until rescued by the

referee in the seventh. Woodcock, although he fought on for three years, never really recovered from his fight with the Polish-American. After the contest. Baksi went back to his native Poland where he spent several weeks celebrating his victory. Later in 1947 he failed to take his training seriously and was outpointed by a second-rate Swede. Ole Tandenburg, who would have been easy meat for Woodcock.

In 1948, Woodcock beat two American heavyweights inside the distance. Lee Oma and Lee Savold. He was to meet Savold again in the following year for what was billed in Britain at least as the heavyweight championship of the world, JOE LOUIS NAVINS e renreo Woodcock beat Johnny Ralph in South Africa in three rounds in defence of his Empire title, and in a fiercely fought contest for the European. British and Empire titles, knocked out the then light heavyweight champion of the world. Freddie Mills, in 14 rounds. In 1950, Woodcock met Savold for a second time, but was badly cut and retired in the fourth round.

His final fight was against the Guardsman Jack Gardner to whom he lost his titles in the 11th round. Once again facial injuries contributed to his defeat. Woodcock had 38 fights of which he won 34, all but two inside the distance.

At the time when Woodcock was fighting, boxing was a more popular sport than it is today. What television failed to cover the newspapers did, devoting an extraordinary amount of space to both Woodcock and to his popular rival. Freddie Mills, Woodcock was a good boxer in the conventional English sense: he possessed a neat left hand and a powerful right, but he was let down by his liability to facial injury (he cut easily), his slight build for a heavyweight even in those days, and by the fact that he was badly managed.

Disenchanted with boxing, Woodcock would have nothing more to do with the sport. He never attended any reunion, nor was he seen at ringside at any major event. He became a publican in his native Doncaster. His name appeared again in the newspapers a year or two ago, however, when he chased and caught two thieves who had been robbing his allotment. But in his heyday his punch and his courage endeared him to the sporting public, and with Henry Cooper. he became the most popular British heavyweight since the war. It is tantalising to wonder whether Woodcock's right would have proved more effective than Henry's famous left hook.

Bruce Woodcock married in 1947 Nora Speight. She survives him together with a son and a daughter.

RICHARD WARWICK

Aids on December 16 aged 52, He was born on April 29, 1945.

ONE of the most attractive and graceful young actors of his generation. Richard Warwick showed in his later perforpremier had his last theatre success playing a bereaved father in Keith Baxter's production of Patrick Hamilton's Theatre in Chichester to the West End. In a play where the charm of the two young murderers looked dangerously like claiming the sympathy of the audience, his naked, keenly felt sense of loss turned them around to bring home the odiousness of the crime.

Born Richard Winter (he changed his

Meopham, Kent, the third of four sons of an aeronautical engineer who was part of the Barnes Wallis team. The family moved to Tigley in Gloucestershire when he was young, and he was educated at Dean Close School. Cheltenham, and

but falling down. The marquess had spent

more than £100,000 on it in the previous

few years, so depleting the family for-tunes. Investments, land, family silver

and even some of his wife's jewellery had

been sold to keep the house going. The

National Trust said that it would only

take the house if it came with a lump sum,

which the family simply did not have.

"We have failed," said the marquess. "If

we go on we shall in time be ruined. At the

end of my life I would hand to my son a

large, beautiful house with no money or

land to support it. I think that would be

The Historic Buildings Council author-

ised grants of £18,000, which were follow-

ed by further public money, and the mar-

quess was persuaded that the cause was

not lost. In the spirit of his ancestors, he

commissioned a trompe l'oeil mural for

the south staircase from Graham Rust,

the heir (to put it politely) of the artist and

mural-painter Rex Whistler. Called The

Temptation, and suggested by the Palla-

dian Villa Masser at Vicenza, the mural took 14 years in all (1969-83), and was said

to be the largest in England. It contains 29 friends and members of the family,

Fortunately, the outcry had an upshot.

catching role alongside Malcolm Mc-Dowell and David Wood, the "schoolboy stars" of Lindsay Anderson's controver sial If. In Zefferelli's Romeo and Juliet he played one of the young servants who set off the brawl between the Montagues and Capulets with the "I bite my thumb at you" wrangle. Zefferelli later cast him as an officer in Mel Gibson's Hamlet and as Rochester's servant in Jane Evre. Dick Lester engaged him for The Bedsitting

The success of his performance in the

Equity member). Warwick began life in

later at RADA. In the cinema he had an early eye

mances that he could pack a most emotional punch. The delightful jeune Rope, which moved from the Minerva

name to avoid confusion with another

title role in Andrew Sinclair's The Breaking of Bumbo was undermined by movie distribution difficulties. He made two films with Derek Jarman, The Tempest and, more significantly, Sebastian, Jarman's arresting account of the saint's martyrdom, filmed in Latin.

On the stage he was at times a member of the National Theatre, Young Vic and Cambridge Theatre companies. He appeared with Laurence Olivier and Geraldine McEwan in The Dance of Death, as Horatio in Hamlet and as Charles Surface in The School for Scandal with the Cambridge Theatre Company.

One of his most powerful theatre

performances was as the son in Terence Rattigan's In Praise of Love, a double bill of two one-act plays. Before Dawn and After Lydia, with Donald Sinden and Joan Greenwood, When Rex Harrison starred in an extended version of the latter play, Rattigan was disappointed by the American actor in Warwick's role, and wanted Warwick for the part; he could not he released. On television Warwick acted with a

succession of leading ladies — Judy Dench (A Fine Romance) Joanna Lumley, Jane Asher and Wendy Craig (I Love You, Mrs Patterson) - all of whom adored him. A memorable early performance as Nicky Lancaster opposite Margaret Leighton in Noel Coward's The Vortex (1960) earned him the highest praise from the author, about whom he was as cleareyed as he often was in his assessment of directors, "Noel doesn't understand anything about drugs," he said. "It's just a theatrical device."

During his long illness, when he was cared for at the Hospice of St John and Elizabeth in St John's Wood, he suffered a form of dementia triggered by the Aids virus, which fogged his mind but did not rob him of the essential sweetness of his

Sir, I differ from Sir John Squire. Every

morning the word monster revives my disenchanted heart. Have we a romance-

epidermis? Every morning it thrills and

test creature whose name has stood for the

Incredible, will scramble out on the shores of

Loch Ness so that on the picture page of The

Times ... I faint with hope.

But to its name. Monster. We have no

monsters. We have men, animals, trees, but

no monster at all since the days of fables.

"Monstrous" is only a poor descent from monster, meaning labulous in a horrifying sense. Surely Sir John doesn't want to evict

fabulous in a horrifying sense," from the practical Scottish horizon over whose rim it

as barely yet raised its borned, its gilled. winged, bearded, maned, machicolated head?...

I write this letter to beg Sir John and his

this one?

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th, the deadline is Westweeley December 24th at Thursday December 25th - Office Closed. Friday December 26th - Office Closed. The office will be open on ricy December 27th from 9,00 am to 11.30am. Normal hours on Mendry December 29th and Tuesday December 30th.

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Over the New Year period statewing deadlines will apply:

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ON THIS DAY THE MONSTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

December 23, 1933

shudders and reacts and grows pink. Mon-ster! What monsters have we in our lives but Sightings of a creature began when a road was built along Loch Ness. St Like Sir John I long for conviction. Too many things have to be taken on trust - God, Columba, in the sixth century, is said to our after life, our own essential goodness. But have fought off a monster in the Loch. if the Monster at least, the Sea-Serpent, the "Nessie" is still a tourist attraction.

> public that they will not take away the Monster. Call him anything else and he will suffer. There is only one of his kind on our horizon to-day ... And as a Monster this traveller from pre-history has already headed three columns in The Times, has already lit the turnultuous dusk of the House of Commons. Let him thus remain until his Latin label is tied to him. For that, as in the garden, will disturb no one, and no one will

> > Yours obediently. **ENID BAGNOLD** North End House, Rottingdean

Sir. In his letter suggesting that it is high time the poor creature had a name. Sir John Squire throws out the suggestion that the Loch Ness monster may turn out to be a female "with or without a little brood of Monstquiparsons." Of course, there cannot merely be a Mr MacNess.
Wherever there is a sea-serpent there must also be a family. That is a point the writer has tried to impress upon believers and doubters alike.
Furthermore, I have conjured up for myself, as part of the Christmastide relaxation, a "sea

serpent symphony", such as could be worthily put on record only by that favourite film-maker, Mr. Walt Disney, It may be a "silly symphony," but that it is to be numbered among the popular coloured symphonies goes without saying. It portrays the MacNess family enjoying the lestive son in a romantic cavern somewhere beneat the Loch, with plenty of music and a symphonic coming and going of mermen and mermaids, and glimpses of many other denizens of the deep such as would be on social terms with the MacNess family complete with their folk songs and dances. The five policemen told off to protect "the monster" of the loch would somehow have found monster" of the lock would Somehow have found their way down below. There would be a great deal of monstrous laughter — and it would spring from talk about the queer humans up above who were still debating whether or not such a thing as a MacNess existed. Can you not hear them at it? I offer the idea to Mr Disney for what it is worth. Yours faithfully. RALPH DEAKIN.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Labour 'defender of welfare state'

Gordon Brown went on the offensive against critics of Labour's welfare reforms, declaring that the "true defenders of the welfare state are those who are prepared to reform it".

In an interview with The Times, the Chancellor said that the war against poverty could only be won by modernisers, but he sought to reassure old Labour by promising that change would be carried out sensitively. There would be no "indiscriminate slash and burn exercise".....

Disabled in Downing St paint protest

■ Twelve severely disabled people protesting against possible cuts in benefits were arrested after they spattered Downing Street with red paint, handcuffed themselves to the gates and accused Tony Blair of treating them as easy targets. They were released after being given formal warnings

BSE inquiry

Jack Cunningham announced a one-off ES5 million emergency package for beef farmers and a year-long inquiry into the BSE crisis. He also paved the way for many farmers to leave the

Fayed hopeful

Mohamed Al Fayed's application to become a British citizen is to be reconsidered. The Home Secretary is to abandon a challenge to a Court of Appeal ruling that the Conservative Government unlawfully rejected applications from the Harrods owner and his brother, AliPages 1, 2

Coal cuts

Thousands of rerired miners and widows will receive less free coal from April. The Industry Department has told them that entitlements must be "rebalanced" to keep in line with European .. Page I

Leader's message

William Hague has delivered his Christmas broadcast to the Tory faithful with a promise of the biggest shake-up of the party in more than 100 years Page 2

Family feud

A teenager whose parents took him to court to keep him out of the family home after he threatened them will spend Christmas in a homeless shelter. He was senfor criminal damage.........Page 3 Paris sleeps".......

Strip tease

Housemistresses from the Godolphin girls' boarding school shocked pupils by going to a Chippendales strip show for their Christmas outing Page 5

Scargill out Arthur Scargill is set to be dis-

qualified as a trustee of two miners' welfare organisations after the Charity Commission found him guilty of misconduct over an £S00,000 cash transfer Page 6 Pioneer boy dies

Stephen Hollis, who became Brit-

ain youngest heart and lung

transplant patient seven years ago, has died aged ten..... Page 7

Communion row Mary McAleese, the Roman Catholic Irish President, has stirred up controversy by taking communion in a Protestant cathedral in Dublin. ..Page 8

Brezhnev plot

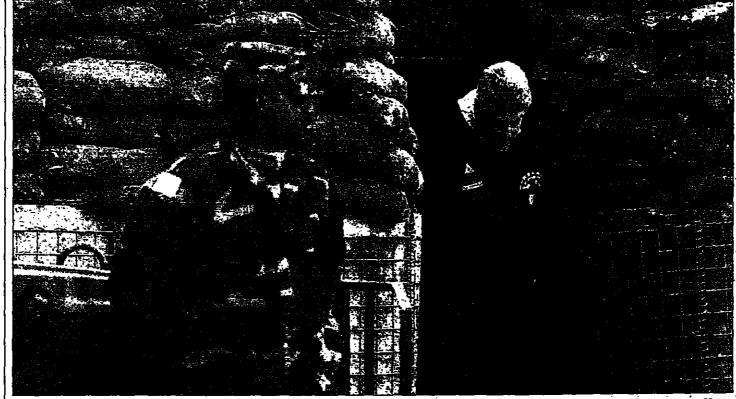
The former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev considered ordering the assassination of his predecessor Nikita Khrushchev in 1964, but lost his nerve and instigated a bloodless coup instead Page 10

Tables turned

Middle-class belt-tightening is taking its toll on French restaurants, leaving them trailing behind those in Britain. A gastronomic survey in Le Monde tenced to six months' probation concludes: "London explodes,

Winning streak for Casino the swan

A Bewick's swan called Casino has set a record by returning. to Britain for the 27th year. Casino has outlived two mates, Royale and Punter, and produced 32 cygnets - four of whom are spending Christmas with her at Slimbridge. Niven, Gambler and Dock arrived first while Croupier looked after their mother on the tiight from Siberia



President Clinton leaving a bunker near Tuzla during a visit to Bosnia, where he is seen as the country's saviour. Report, page 11

BUSINESS

Diamonds: Turmoil in the Far East is having a disastrous impact on diamond sales, it emerged as the South African group Beers moved to position itself as an independent company

Housing: Confidence in the housing market has fallen sharply in the South but remains at its peak in the Page 21

Luxury goods: The Swiss conglomerate Richemont is to press ahead with plans to take full control of Vendome, the luxury goodsPage 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 20 points to close at 5018.2. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 104.5 to 104.7 after a fall from \$1.6690 to \$1.6629 but a rise from DM2.9518 to DM2.9605 Page 24 | ing Day

SPORT

Football: Jurgen Klinsmann returned to ease Tottenham Hotspur's Premiership problems in a £175,000 loan deal, two and a half years after his acrimonious

Sailing: The Swedish yacht EF Language took the lead in the Whitbread Round the World Race after winning the third leg, from Fremantle to SydneyPage 37 Equestrianism: Peter Charles, of Ireland, brought the Olympia showjumping championships to a stirring conclusion with a victory

on Dolly... ...Page 37 Racing: Graham Bradley looks forward to resuming his partnership with Suny Bay in the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Box-

ARTS

Unholy babes: True to its tradition of resurrecting Victorian burlesque pantomime, the Players' Theatre unveils a Macbeth-inspired Babes in the WoodPage 28

Holy mother: A Renaissance Madonna and Child by Sebastiano del Piombo is on view after its purchase by the Fitzwilliam Museum, revealing disturbing symbolismPage 29

Music mission: How traumatised Bosnian children persuaded Luciano Pavarotti to overcome his dislike of helicopters and see his dream come true......Page 29

Music marathon: The American conductor James Levine rounded off his Philharmonia concerts with a masterful peformance of Mah-.Page 33 | ler's Eighth Symphony.....Page 29

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

The weekly IT section

bringing new hope

for peace on Earth

Why this is a good

time to think about

buying a chalet in a

French snow resort

wind. Max 11C (52F).

■ HOMES

finds modern technology

INTERFACE

.. FLATURES

Feast fears: For children with eating disorders. Christmas is a difficult time. But parents can help them to cope Page 14 Hope for Dorah: Generous readers are bringing hope to Dorah, the brave South African baby who defied death..... Page 14 Healthy Christmas: Dr Thomas Stuttaford on how to avoid postreveiry problems Page 14 Chat lines: Most men are dreadful at approaching women. But a study of female body language can save them from flirting with

Loathsome lawyers: Why are lawyers so widely disliked? Fiona Bawdon is on the case...... Page 31

Festive planners: For small busi-

nesses specialising in Christmas products, the trick is to spread the work through the year Page 30

THE PAPERS

The IMF and the World Bank are trying to dictate policy to Russia, and in this light it is not surprising that the Communists liken it to a regime of occupation. The Kremlin, the Russian Government and bureaucrats are not ready for democracy. They are lackeys temporarily holding the reins of power –Nezavisimaya Gazeta | mouse

Preview: He dressed the famous but eschewed fame - Secret Lives: Versace (Channel 4, 9,30pm) Review: Joe Joseph on the hotel that treats its guests as though they were the enemy Pages 38, 39

TV & RADIO

OPINION

Selective cull

The case for a searching inquiry is powerful. This has been an extraordinary and exceptionally expensive Page 17 🐔

Off the ground

Like Concorde and Airbus, other multinational aviation projects that appeared doomed during development, Eurofighter is both justified in its mission and of immense consequence to the competitiveness and innovation of Western defence. After years of squabbling, it has now, finally, taken off Page 17

Ho, Ho, Hi

While British mums have scoured high streets for Teletubbies. American moms have tramped main streets for another sweet yet cloying celebration of the full stomach the traditional Christmas pud-.... Page 17

COLUMNS

LIBBY PURVES

i suddenly see the pleasure of the Millennium Dome. It has to be ready on time, or it is pointless....

DAVID SELBOURNE

Only those familiar with Italian mores could understand the mistrust, often justified, in which Italians hold one another, while Italian scholarship is a byword for bad faith, corruption, and Page 16 indolence

CONRAD RUSSELL

Mr Blair believes he can reduce the social security budget by changing the social security system. That is a bad case of shooting the Page 16 messenger......

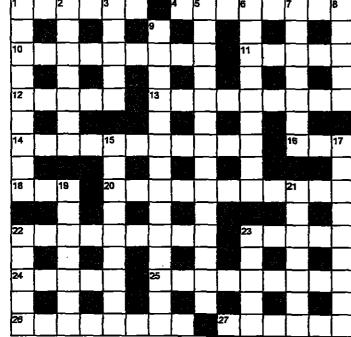
OBTUARIES.

The Marquess of Hertford, landowner; Bruce Woodcock, boxer: Richard Warwick, actor... Page 19

LETTERS

Labour's economic conflicts: Irish President: Messiah message; Turkey and Cyprus; Jacob of Ancona; Moscow temperatures: Rudolph's role; Christmas stocking Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,670



- ACROSS
- 1 Perform in pantomime horse. perhaps? That creates interest (6). 4 Bob turns awkward, being ob-
- stinate (δ) . 10 Plenty of cake available during a
- ball (9).
- 11 Employment exchange (5). 12 Combination of metals used in

healer (2,3,4).

- weapon (5). 13 Formerly agreeing with great
- 14 Complaint that's not strictly for the birds? (11).
- 16 Bow found in Africa, oddly (3). 18 Toy revolver (3).
- 20 Progress is limited here, in highrise locality? (5-2.4).
- 22 Quick to take action (9).
- 23 Work of monumental stupidity?

Solution to Puzzle No 20.669



- 24 One breaks a little back bone (5). 25 Like a high-flier, able to take long
- 26 Change at Naples for Nice (8). 27 Island's anchorage in the sound

view? (5-4).

DOWN

- 1 Dangerous situation that frightened buccaneer to death (5.4).
- 2 He was bound to begin (but not finish) his performance (7). 3 House deposit (5).
- 5 Novel series adapted for the stage, say (3,7,4).
- 6 Uses soft soap, as fatty stuff's increased in price (7,2).
- 7 Like an egg. it's blown (7). 8 Annie celebrates having this other
- girl in the family (5). 9 The deep South? (9,5).
- 15 Supported by runners, they turn up at the front (9). 17 Cautious bids in order - many
- found it hard to pass (9). 19 River put on list suitable for
- drinking (7). 21 As result of special deal, English railway passed through another station (7).
- 22 Drunk started smoking (3.2). 23 Hard worker on land turning up in novel (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 40

AA INFORMATION UX Weather- All regions 0336 444 910 0336 401 410

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HIGHEST & LOWEST Yesterday, Highest day temp: Farrouch, Com-wall. 102 (54F); lowest day mac. Avemore, Highland, 10 (30F); highest rainfall; Percance. 0 71m highest sunshmer Schooling 5 the

NEWSPAPERS

scoons half of 1996

SUPPORT RECYCLING

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FORECAST

General: Rain in eastern England will slowly clear during the morning but it will stay mostly cloudy with only limited bright spells. Cloudy, over western England and Wales; after a dry morning, rain will move into most areas

during the afternoon.

Southern and western Scotland will turn wet and quite windy this afternoon.

Northeast Scotland will start dull and damp, with only a few dry periods, before more rain arrives this evening. Northern Ireland will have rain on and off all day. The Irish Republic will be rany in the morning, drier in the atter-noon, and wet again in the evening. Tonight, very mild everywhere with heavy rain or showers in the north and west, but the east and south will be

much drier with occasional patchy drizzle or light rain. ☐ London, SE, Cent S, Cent N, E England, E Anglia, Midlands, Chan-nel Isles: Mostly dull apart from a few

☐ Republic of Ireland: Patchy mist or log, then rain from west: Brighter and mainly dry in afternoon, wet again later. Fresh or strong south or southwest winds. Max 11C (52F). bright intervals this morning. Patchy light rain or druzzle later. Moderate southwest breeze. Max 10C (50F).

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

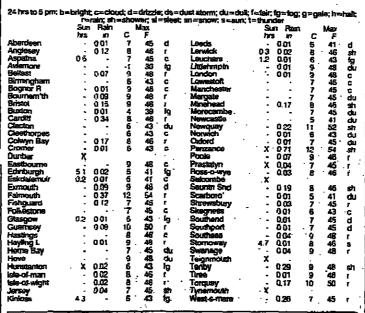
Outlook: Mild but rather unsettled SW, NW, NE England, S Wales, N with rain and strong winds at times

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scot-land, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy with rain. A little drier by

afternoon, but more rain later. Moderate southeasterly wind. Max 9C (48F).

☐ N Ireland: Heavy rain dearing northeast during the morning, but more heavy rain will spread from the south

this evening. Strong southwest wind. Max 12C (54F).

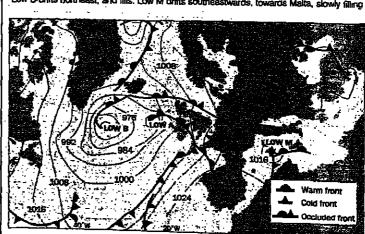


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ABROAD



Changes to chart below from noon: low A moves north, with little change in central pressure. Low B-drifts northeast, and fills. Low M drifts southeastwards, towards Malta, slowly filling



TODAY Landar Bridge Abordeen Avormouth Belfast Cardiff Devenport Dover Dublin IN Walth Falmouth Greenock Harwich Holyhaad	AM 07 47 08.13 00.52 05.45 00.38 11.44 06.31 11.15 06.59 05.24 06.01	HT 5.7 345 9.5 280 4.4 4.2 2.2 4.4	PM 20.26 20.27 13.21 17.51 13.07 18.06 18.50 18.30 18.22 17.20	HT 59 357 31 526 31 346	TODAY Leith Livestoh Margate Millord Heven Newquer Cheir Penzance Portland Portsmouth Shorestam	AM 09.10 05.31 03.21 05.57 00.10 11.43 02.14 11.15 00.01 05.19	HT 452391 445235.494 1390	PM 21.36 17.59 17.93 18.53 12.42 12.59 12.51 18.21 17.58	H 4.7 2 3 5 5 1 3 4
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BUSINESS Test your

knowledge in our City quiz PAGE 25



LAW

Why are the media so hard on lawyers? PAGE 31



SPORT

Klinsmann makes hero's return to White Hart Lane **PAGES 33-40**

TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES

38, 39

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

Factors up for sale by Lloyds **TSB**

By RICHARD MILES

LLOYDS TSB has hung a "for sale" sign on Interna-tional Factors, its subsidiary and one of the country's leading discount and factoring groups.

Bank of New York.

which runs a leading commercial finance operation in North America, has been widely tipped as the buyer after its acquisition of two smaller UK factoring businesses during the summer.

International Factors, based in Brighton and employing about 500 people, is understood to be the biggest of the four factoring and discounting businesses within the Lloyds TSB fold.

In spite of its size, senior managers at the bank are believed to favour a second factoring subsidiary, Alex Lawrie, because they feel the firm has a superior client list and a better reputation. As a result, they have decided to sell International Factors.

Meanwhile, another subidsidiary, TSB Factors, is being absorbed within the fourth factoring business, TSB Commercial Finance, which specialises in invoice discounting, a practice increasingly used to fund corporate expan-

Bank of New York dedined to comment yesterday on its interest in International Factors, but a spokesman said the bank had made little secret of its desire to expand its

European operations. City analysts said the disposal of International Factors made clear sense for Lloyds TSB as the group-continues to seek to strip out non-core businesses and eliminate any duplication caused by the merger of the two banks.

in an earlier house-keeping exercise in Sep-tember, Lloyds TSB sold Bisiness Technology Fising subsidiary, to Newcourt Credit of Canada for £235 million, makmg a clear profit of £40 malion on the deal. The £40 billion a year

factoring and discounting market is dominated by the subsidiaries of three high street banks Alex Lawrier International Fac-tors, Midland Bank's Griffin and Natwest's Lomband. The Factors and counters Association says the market has grown nearly 20 per cent per amum in recent years.

Richemont bid values Vendôme at £3.5bn

RICHEMONT, the Swiss conglomerate controlled by the Ru-pert family of South Africa, is to press ahead with plans to take full control of Vendome, the luxury goods group, despite the worsen-ing Asian financial crisis. Vendôme, which is already 70 per

cent owned by Richemont, is heavily dependent on the Japanese and Far Eastern markets for sales of its prestige brands such as Cartier, Affred Dunhill and Piaget, and its shares have been buffeted by the recent turnoil. The shares fell from a high this year of 54212p to a low of 3252 p before their recent rally. Last month, Richemont an-

nounced that it was in talks over a £1.04 billion bid to buy out the minority shareholders in Vendôme, but gave warning at the time that it might not proceed in the event of any further collapse in world markets.

Yesterday, the boards of the two groups unveiled a recommended offer that puts a total value of £3.45 billion on Vendôme, which is chaired by Joseph Kanoui Changes to the terms set out in November provide a loan note alternative to the 495p-a-share cash offer and a special interim dividend of 5p, payable on completion, probably in April.

The board of independent direc-tors, which is headed by Lord Douro, deputy chairman of Vendome, and was set up to consider the offer on behalf of minority shareholders, also recommended the hid



Rupert: aware of Asian dangers

yesterday. For the deal to go through it must be approved by 75 per cent of minority shareholders, although analysts believe there is yesterday. For the deal to unlikely to be much opposition.

Mercury Asset Management, with about 5 per cent, is expected to accept the offer when it is put to a shareholder vote in February. Johann Rupert, chief executive

said he was well aware of the potential dangers from the Asian crisis, but noted that building luxury brands was a long-term business. "I'm not overly enthused by what I see over there (Asia), but this is a business that operates on a ten to 15-year timespan. Maybe we'll suffer, but I hope not as much as we fear.

He said that Vendome's experiences had raised the question of whether luxury goods groups should operate in the public arena when the short-term demands of six-monthly results were at odds with the longterm needs of brand development.

Mr Rupert rejected suggestions that he was taking advantage of the group's weak share price, noting that Vendôme shares closed at a high on the Swiss Stock Exchange. The 495p offer is a 26 per cent premium over the 3932p close in London before the approach. Yesterday, the shares gained lop to 4772p.

The independent directors, who were advised by Schroders, said they had recommended the offer after taking account of "the increasingly uncertain environment in which Vendôme operates and the fact that many of the brands would require significant investment over the next few years". Mr Rupert said investment plans would be decided in the

Vendôme became a separately listed company in 1993, when Richemont reorganised its tobacco and luxury goods portfolio. Richemont, which is quoted in Switzerland, with a secondary listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, has a two-thirds interest in Rothmans International and a 15 per cent stake in Canal Plus, the French pay TV group.



Lord Douro, left, and Joseph Kanoui believe the bid is right for shareholders

Three in running to replace Bishop at **Channel 4**

By RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

THE contest to replace Sir Michael Bishop as chairman of Channel 4 has come down to a race between Vanni Treves, the Italian-born business lawyer, and Sir Colin Southgate, chairman of EMI, the international music group.

The third person on the shortlist is Howard Dyer, who is non-executive chairman of Hamleys, the toy retailer, executive chairman of Ascot Holdings and non-executive chairman of New Look, the fashion house.

The successor to Sir Michael, who runs British Midland Airways, is expected to be announced in January.

Mr Treves, 57, is the senior partner of the City law firm Macfarlanes. His clients include John Paul Getty II and the family trusts of Richard Branson. He is a governor of London Business School, leads fund-raising for the National Portrait Callery and chairs three quoted companies.

The favourite is probably Sir Colin, who has made no secret of his desire for the job. His experience in the music industry with its reliance on intellectual property rights and the rapid move towards digital technology would help, as would his previous experience with commercial television, when Thorn EMI owned Thames Television. Continuing heavyweight

business experience would be a help at Channel 4, which faces a number of tough business decisions next year - including the launching of new digital terrestrial channels.

There have been reports that Sir Colin's name may also be in the frame for the chairmanship of the Royal Opera House and if both were available it is not clear which he

BUSINESS TODAY

Slowdown

Consumer spending quarter, contributing to a small downward revision to overall growth in the Office for National Statistics.

Page 22, Commentary 23 Nursing homes

BUPA, the medical insurance group, is about to become Britain's biggest nursing home operator after winning control of Care First yesterday with an increased bid of £273

De Beers plans to go it alone

By Jon Ashworth

having a disastrous impact on diamond sales, it emerged yesterday as De Beers, the South African diamond group, moved to position itself as an independent company. Second-half sales of rough diamonds by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO), the De Beers marketing arm in London, were 30 per cent down on the first half of 1997, at \$1.76 billion and 16 per cent

TURMOIL in the Far East is Oppenheimer and Gary Ralfe. who become chairman and managing director respectively of De Beers from January 1.

Describing 1997 as a "rollercoaster of a year", Mr Ralfe
said the CSO would restrict the flow of uncut gems in an attempt to maintain prices.

Much depends on what happens in Japan, which speaks for about 25 per cent of world diamond consumption. compared with America's 35 per cent. Economic problems. coupled with a weakening of the yen against the dollar (De Beers prices its products in dollars) left sales in Japan 30 billion, in line with forecasts. The figures were unveiled in Johannesburg by Nicholas

by currency devaluations and economic turmoil. Mr Ralfe said: The effect upon the diamond market has been dramatic." Prospects were more buoyant in Âmerica, but sellers have flooded the market, driving down prices and profit margins. There was an improvement in Europe, but not enough to compensate for Japan and South East Asia. De Beers is breaking free from Anglo American, its longstanding bed-fellow, as part of a "tidying up" exercise aimed at simplifying the Anglo group structure. All Anglo's diamond

South East Asia was hard hit in De Beers, which will be a free-standing organisation. Anglo is selling its direct shareholding in De Beers to Anglo American Investment Trust (Anamint). It will hold 67 per cent in Anamint, which will in turn hold 34 per cent in De Beers and 31 per cent in Centenary, the company's Swiss-registered offshoot. De Beers will remain the largest shareholder in Anglo.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, the Anglo chairman, said the move made strategic sense, and was in line with shareholders' wishes.

down on the same period in 1996. Overall sales for 1997 were down 4 per cent at \$4.64

tered Surveyors (RICS).

usual picture, the slowdown has hit the South hardest, with the North stable. London is the only exception, with increasing numbers of surveyors still reporting rising prices.

Professionals to face one-off tax

By Jon Ashworth

other professionals face paying up to £200 million in a oneoff tax, under controversial changes proposed by the

. The changes, described as tantamount to a windfall tax firms an unfair advantage. The on professional firms, were described as "probably the worst Christmas present" the Government could have come up with. The Inland Revenue insisted the move was about "levelling the playing field" and ensuring that everyone was taxed on the same basis.

million to £200 million. Dawn Primarolo, the Finan-

Denise Catterall, tax part-

DIRECT LINE Instant Access

Revised interest rates effective from 1st January 1998.

ACCOUNT

BALANCE	NEW INTEREST RATES				
	PAID ANNUALLY	PAID MONTHLY			
	(GROSS %)	(GROSS %)			
£1-£4,999	5.80	5.65			
£5,000-£9,999	6.15	5.98			
£10,000-£24,999	7.00	6.79			
£25,000-£49,999	7.05	6.83			
£50,000-£99,999	7.15	6.93			
£100,000+	7.25	. 7.02			



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Formula One gets **Europe deadline**

By Jason NISSE

KAREL VAN MIERT, the European Competition Commissioner, has given the For-mula. One motor racing industry three weeks to change its linancial arrangements or

face legal proceedings.

A Spokesman said the EU had serious doubts that various arrangements between Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), which runs the sport, and Formula One Holdings, the company run by Bernie Ecclesione, complied with

European competition law. The action throws into doubt Vir Ecclésione's attempts to float Formula One, which was supposed to come to market in July with a £1.5 billion price tag but has yet to set a formal flotation date. Mr Ecclestone -whose I million gift to the

Labour Party was returned to him - recently said the float could not take place until the EU had finished its

investigations. One of the key contracts causing concern was struck at the beginning of this year and secures Formula One Holdings all the commercial rights to the sport until the year 2010. At the weekend Mr Van

Miert gave an interview to a Belgian newspaper, in which he attacked financial arrange ments in the sport. Mr Ecclesione has had Formula One to himself now for 15 years," said Mr Van Mierz, "A number of rulings are in the

Commentary, page 23

South hit by housing slowdown

By Susan Emmett

CONFIDENCE in the housing market has fallen sharply in the South but remains at its peak in the North, according to a report published today by the Royal Institution of Char-

Figures for the three months to the end of November show that the slowdown is not just a pre-Christmas Iull. The number of surveyors reporting a rise in prices has more than halved nationally since this time last year as the cumulative effect of interest rate rises begins to bite. However, in contrast to the

The Government is to withdraw the "cash basis" practices available to partnerships, giving rise to a catching-up charge in 1998-99. Firms which account on the basis of cash received or bills paid, will

LAWYERS, accountants, and have to factor in work in progress and outstanding bills. The charge could total £100

> cial Secretary to the Treasury, said the "cash basis" gave some change would "level the playing field for all businesses and correct an anomaly for which there is no justification".

> ner in Coopers & Lybrand, said: This is probably the worst Christmas present that partners in professional practice could have been given by the Government. In a way, it is not dissimilar to a windfall

Partners face significant bills. Comments are invited by

Warning at biotech business

By PAUL DURMAN

BIOCOMPATIBLES Intemational, the biotechnology company whose shares slumped when it failed to secure a deal with Johnson & Johnson, has given warning that its sales are being held back by its attempts to find alternative distribution, and it is heading for an increased second-half loss.

The company is relying on national distributors to market its stents, the miniature devices used to hold open blood vessels. However. Alistair Taylor, chief executive, says these local firms are reluctant to promote the product because they expect Biocompatibles to appoint a large international distribution partner.

Stent sales grew but overall sales will not meet directors' forecasts. Biocompatibles said its secondhalf loss will exceed the £11.4 million it lost in the six months to June.

The company said it recently began a second round of negotiations with potential partners for its stents and other cardiovascular devices. Mr Taylor said they include Johnson & Johnson, which remains interested in Biocompatibles' body-friendly medical coating, known as PC. The shares fell 172p to 460p. They were £14.20 before the Johnson & Johnson deal fell apart in September.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sels
Australia S	2.64	2.47
Austrie Sch	21.81	20.15
Beiglum Fr	64.22	59.26
Canada S	2.507	2319
Cyprus Cyp£ .	0.911	0.839
Denmark Kr	11.86	10,97
Finland Mlvk	9.50	8.75
France Fr	10.37	9.59
Germany Dm .	3,12	2.88
Greece Dr	492	453
Hong Kong \$	13.71	12.51
iceland tretand Pr	131	,111
treland Pt	1,20	1.11
Israel Shk	6.27 3077	5.62 2840
Italy Lita Japan Yen	231.63	214.10
Malta	0.683	0.624
Netherids Gld	3.525	3,230
New Zealand \$	3.02	2.78
Norway Kr	12.73	11,79
Portugal Esc	315.03	293.00
S Africa Rd	8.77	7.82
Spain Pta	261,79	243.00
Sweden Kr	13.73	12.63
Switzerland Fr	2.54	2.33
Turkey Line	343062	323184
USA \$	1,769	1.626
Rates for sm.		
walka wake an are		

Nikkei falls below 15,000 as Far East worries continue

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS EDITOR

ASIAN markets suffered another dismal session after four countries saw their sovereign debt downgraded by Moody's Investors Service, the international credit rating agency, three of them to junk bond

This latest blow to confidence in the Far East came hard on the heels of news that the International Monetary Fund had slashed its economic forecasts for the region. It virtually halved its forecast for Japanese growth next year from 2.1 per cent, estimated as recently as in October, to 1.1 per cent in its latest report

Moody's said yesterday that it had downgraded the foreign currency ceiling for bonds and bank deposits of Indonesia. Malaysia and South Korea. It also downgraded Thailand's

Burford in

Mayfair

acquisition

By CARL MORTISHED

BURFORD HOLDINGS has

acquired a large property in

Mayfair for almost £100 mil-

tion. The property group, which recently suffered the departure of Nick Leslau, its

high-profile chief executive, has acquired Mayfair Place.

an island block bounded by Stratton Street and Berkeley

Street, comprising two build-

Burford is paying Norwich

Union £99.75 million for the property, which generates £7.41 million in rent. equating

to a yield of 7.4 per cent. John Andersen, Burford's new chief

executive, said: "We are buy-

ing Mayfair off low rents at a

time when prime office tents

in the West End are now £50

per sq ft and investment yields

Meanwhile, Greycoat is

selling a half share in I Great

St Helens, its City office dev-

elopment, to Scottish Life in a

property swap involving the

acquisition by Greycoat of the

insurer's office and retail in-

vestment at 36 Poultry. Cur-

rent market rents value Great

St Helens at £30-40 million.

are as low as 5 per cent."

ings totalling 256,000 sq ft.

foreign currency ceiling for bonds and confirmed the ceiling for bank deposits.

It said that its move was in response to worries about South Korea's short-term foreign currency financing needs. concern about the ability of Indonesia's corporate sector's ability to meet its foreign debt obligations and Malaysia's

slowed sharply in the third

quarter, contributing to a

small downward revision to

overall growth in the period.

according to the Office for National Statistics.

Consumer spending grew 0.7 per cent in the three

months from July to Septem-ber, compared with 1.6 per

cent in the second quarter.

BHF-BANK of Germany is

selling its 50 per cent share in

Charterhouse, the UK mer-

chant bank, to Credit Com-

mercial de France (CCF),

holder of the other half stake

Control of Charterhouse

will pass to CCF in the first

quarter of 1998. No price was

disclosed, but sources said

that between £200 million and

(Richard Miles writes).

nancial troubles. Moody's also lowered the ratings on 20 South Korean banks and on some of the country's largest firms. All were lowered to Bal, one level above junk bonds.

The unremitting diet of bad news depressed Asian currencies and stock markets. In Japan, the Nikkei 225 index

some of this slowdown could

be attributed to mourning for

also saw a £6 billion payout

by the Woolwich Building

Society. Simon Briscoe, econ-

omist at Nikko Europe, said

that the figures proved that

windfalls were being saved,

Michael Hepher should see "business as usual" at Charterhouse after the change

Charterhouse stake sold

A spokesman for BHF-Bank

said the disposal stemmed

from a strategic review initiat-

ed by Ernst Kruse after his appointment as chief executive officer in March.

disposal of a large stake in Zivnostenska, a Czech bank,

would leave BHF free to

The sale, plus the earlier

for the holding.

not spent.

Nevertheless, this period

Diana, Princess of Wales.

first time in more than two years. The index lost 515.49 points, to close at 14,799.40.

The negative impact on the Japanese economy of troubles in its key regional markets was highlighted by yesterday's announcement by Toyota that it was halting produc-

Consumer spending slows City economists said that

product grew 0.8 per cent in

the third quarter, revised down from 0.9 per cent. Separate figures showed that Britain recorded a current account surplus of £473 million in the third quarter. down from a surplus of £1.44 billion in the second.

banking operations in Frank-

THE UK management buyout

market broke all records in 1997, with more than £7 billion

of deals, according to the latest MBO survey by KPMG Cor-

The number of larger MBOs and management buy-

ins reached a peak of 130 this year, compared with 114 in 1996. The final quarter of 1997

saw 25 deals worth £2 billion,

led by Unipoly (£620 million), Gala Bingo Halls (£300 mil-lion) and Crystal International

Travel Group (£150 million).

MBOs were valued at E55 million on average.

The value of larger (EIO million-plus) MBOs and MBIs peaked at £7.14 billion

in 1997, up 20 per cent on 1996.

KPMG expects the value to rise further in 1998.

Mike Stevens, head of MBO

Services at KPMG Corporate

Finance, said: "Never before

has so much money been

porate Finance.

furt, said the spokesman.

company up for sale.

reduce stocks. Car sales in the Philippines have fallen 12.5 per cent over the past year.

In Seoul, the Korean stock exchange suspended trading in the shares of four companies because of rumours that they were about to default on their debts.

Today, the Finance Ministry is opening up the shortterm bond market to foreign investment, but conditions could hardly be worse. Yields on three-month corporate bonds closed at 30 per cent yesterday, but still did not attract any buyers.

Wall Street shrugged off Asia'a latest troubles, bouncing by more than 80 points in initial trading as traders jumped into the market again after Friday's losses of 90 points. In London, the FTSE 100 index lost 2.0 points. to close at 5,018.2.

scrutiny

WALL'S, the ice-cream company, is to face a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation after a complaint from Mars, its rival, over supply deals (Christine Buck-

ley writes).
The Office of Fair Trading

John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, said:

Birds Eye Wall's disagreed that the concessionaire scheme restricted consumer choice. Tony Pearce, sales director, said: "A dedicated distribution system is essential to ensure our consumers receive the widest choice of ice-cream of the highest possible quality."

chasing buyout deals. The success of the MBO market is

generating its own momen-

turn, sucking in international investors looking for higher-yielding homes for their

money than they can find in

KPMG said the prices being

paid were not unreasonable. Faced with increasing ner-vousness in the financial mar-

kets, MBO investments in

1998 are likely to settle on

quality, resulting in fewer but

Unipoly was the largest MBO, followed by General

Healthcare Group (£594 million) and Welcome Break (£476 million). Other big deals

involved CE Heath, March-

pole Group and Birmingham

International Airport. Venture

capital houses are thought to

have more than £50 billion

available for acquisitions in

the UK and mainland Europe.

larger "mega-deals".

the major stock markets."

Wall's faces from MMC

referred Unilever, the parent company of Birds Eye Wall's, to the MMC after concern about how it distributes icecream through concessionaires, who supply Wall's ice cream to the shops while other wholesalers get the confection-ary on what the OFT considers less favourable terms".

"It is consumers who lose out if the Wall's distribution policy restricts the choice of icecreams in a shop, or makes it difficult for other manufacturers to enter or expand in the

CCF emphasised that it would be "business as usual" at Charterhouse, and said it had no plans to put the Charterhouse, led by Michael Hepher, reported a pre-tax profit of £40.4 million in 1996 and has assets of £1.9 billion.

Buyout market

tops record £7bn

By Jon Ashworth

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

TI acquires Sealol in swap and cash deal

TI GROUP, the UK engineering company, has agreed a swap deal with EG&G, of the US, that will see EG&G's Sealol Industrial subsidiary become part of TI in return for TI's John Crane Belfab unit and \$55 million. The deal values Sealol, a manufacturer of high temperature mechanical seals for the refining and petroleum industry, at \$100 million. Sealol, based in Rhode Island, earned operating profits of \$10.3 million in 1996 on sales of \$88.8 million. Belfab. acquired by TI in 1991 for \$14.3 million, supplies the semiconductor industry and the deal values it now at \$45 million.

Sir Christopher Lewinton, chairman of TI, said: While we were very pleased with the performance of Belfab. it has a highly specialised product line serving the semi-conductor industry which is not coherent with John Crane's global strategy in mechanical seals." EG&G has annual sales of more than \$1.4 billion and more than 14.000 employees worldwide. TI shares rose 152 p to 455p yesterday.

Unit trust sales dip

SALES of unit trusts fell to 5413 million in November from E510 million the previous month, according to figures from the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Auril). However, last month's sales figure is still 25 per cent higher than for the same period last year. Sales of Peps, at £402 million, are slightly higher than the previous month's and 33 per cent higher than last year. Around a quarter of the £252 million attracted by companies selling funds directly to the public went to index-tracking funds.

Ivory & Sime setbacks

IVORY & SIME, the Edinburgh fund manager, underlined its need for last month's reverse takeover by Friends Provident to go ahead, with half-year results showing continuing falls in funds under management and fee income. Despite the setbacks Ivory & Sime squeezed a 5.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £3.97 million, pushing earnings per share up 8.2 per cent to 8.29p. An unchanged interim dividend of 2.85p will be paid on January 9.

Partners back merger

KPMG and Ernst & Young moved a step closer to cementing their global merger yesterday, when partners in KPMG Peat Marwick LLP, the American practice, voted overwhelmingly in favour of the proposals. Partners in Ernst & Young in the US gave their approval last week. Partners in member firms internationally are due to vote early next year. Price Waterhouse is pursuing its own merger plans with Coopers & Lybrand. Approval for both deals rests with regulators.

Finelist purchase

FINELIST GROUP, the auto parts specialist, is paying up to £9 million for XL Component Distribution, a steering, braking and ignition products company. XL will operate as a stand-alone business within Finelist's packaging and manufacturing division, complementing the existing activities of First Line and Autogem, the company said. Mark Marwood, the current owner and managing director of XL. will remain as managing director.

Oil prices 'will rise'

THE Saudi Government yesterday said it expects oil prices to rise next year, helped by robust growth in world demand and a commitment by fellow members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to observe new output quotas agreed last month. Current economic slowdown in would not adversely affect regional oil demand, it add Last month, Opec ministers agreed to lift the production ceiling to 27.5 million barrels per day from the start of 1998.

US insurers merge

IN a \$2.2 billion share deal, American International Group (AIG), the US insurance company, has agreed to acquire American Bankers Insurance Group. AIG is to pay the equivalent of \$47 a share to acquire American Bankers, a provider of specialised insurance services, such as life insurance related to loans. AIG underwrites commercial and industrial insurance. Its member companies provide services in about 130 countries and jurisdictions.

Freepages at the double

FREEPAGES GROUP, the interactive consumer information service provider which competes against BT's Talking Pages, more than doubled its revenues to £15.4 million in the year to September. During the same period pre-tax losses rose from £10.07 million to £14.97 million. Freepages said yesterday that it expects to gain a full Stock Exchange listing in 1998. Net loss per share after exceptionals was 3.4p for the year and there is no dividend

Arcadian shares rise

SHARES in Arcadian International rose almost 5 per cent after the hotel group admitted that it was "at an advanced stage of discussions with a potential offeror". Last week The Times reported that Patriot American Hospitality, a US real estate investment trust, was close to finalising a takeover. The group has refused to name the suitor, but is expected to make an announcement next month. Its shares gained 2½ p to 60p yesterday. In August they stood at 3812 p.

Former funeral director accused of misrepresentation

Hodgson faces Prontac writ

By Jason Nissé

HOWARD HODGSON, who was ousted as chief executive of Ronson, the lighter-maker, this year, is facing a legal claim worth up to £500,000 for misrepresentation over his role in a failed franchise business prior to joining Ronson.

Mr Hodgson, a former funeral director who courts a high profile, is named in a writ to be issued by 37 former franchisees of a company called Prontac, of which he was chairman. Four other directors of Prontac - David Meakin. Stephen Fox. Thomas Madeley and Graham Hodson - are also named in the action.

Prontac collapsed in March 1993 with debts of more than E750,000. Many franchisees lost more than E10,000 each by investing in the Prontac system, an accounting service devised for small businesses. However, there were fundamental problems with the system that made it almost impossible to use or sell. The legal action alleges mis-

representation by Mr Hodgson and the other directors over the financial strength of Prontac and the prospects for the franchises. A statement of claim will be filed in the next few days and the franchisees' solicitor. Amanda Webster of Brabner Holden Banks Wilson in Preston, said the total claim would reach £500,000.

"We have investigated this misrepresentation claim thoroughly, using a leading firm of forensic accountants, and we are confident of our grounds," said Ms Webster.

Mr Hodgson was chairman of Prontac and a leading investor. He appeared on the advertising for the product, saying how his funeral business had grown into a £90 million company from an initial out-lay of £14,000. The literature



Hodgson: lost £750,000

gave cashflow projections, saying franchisees could sign up at least 66 customers by the end of their first year. However, when the business ran into trouble there were only 200 clients for 85 franchisees. One of the franchisees' main

bones of contention with Mr Hodgson is his failure to tell them of his resignation from the Prontac board in August 1992. Although his name was removed from the company literature, he addressed a franchisees' meeting in Birmingham in November 1092 at which no mention was made of his resignation. Mr Hodgson told The Times

that he was the main loser from the Prontac fiasco, having invested £750,000 of his own money and receiving nothing back. The Department of Trade and Industry looked at Prontac and gave me a clean bill of health and the Inland Revenue accepted I had lost £750,000," he said.

Thus is a try on." Mr Hodgson is currently suing Ronson for compensation for loss of office after his departure from the group earlier this year. Shareholders lost patience with Mr Hodgson after it issued a series of profits warnings only months after raising money from the market in a rights issues.



Anglian Water Plc wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

May we take this opportunity to tell our friends that, once again this year, we are not sending Christmas cards.

Instead, we're making donations to

several local children's charities and hospices.

THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

WEINESS ROUNDUP quires Sealolin and cash deal

rust sales dip

& Sime Setbacks

er back merger

of purchase

was will rise

can share rise

Bernie Ecclestone has had an eventful 1997. The boss of Formula 1 gave the Labour Party El million — only to have it returned in a cheque which he apparently hasn't cashed. He saw some of the leading players in his sport accused of manslaughter over the death of the former world champion, Ayrton Senna — only for them to be exceeded. And he attempted to float the company that runs the sport with a E15 billion price tag — only for the float to be postponed indefinitely. Now he will start 1998 locking horns with Karel van Miert, the dreaded European Union competition commissioner. In a battle between the diminutive former motorcycle mechanic from Suffolk and the left wing Flemish farmer's son, there can only be one winner.

This time, you wouldn't put your money on Bernie.

Van Miert yesterday said the EC had decided the sport was breaching competition law — something that many had suspected, not least Van Miert. The problem is something that goes to the core both of how the sport is run and how Ecclestone created a business with paid him £54 million last year. Van Miert thinks there is too cosy a relation-ship between Ecclestone's Formula One Holdings - the company he wants to float - and the Federation Internationale de L'Automobile (FIA), which runs the sport. Specifically he is

unhappy about Ecclestone's role within the constitution of the FIA - which Van Miert points out is run by Ecclestone's former legal adviser, Max Mosley. Mean-while the FIA has given Ecclestone a contract to exploit all the media rights to Formula I until the year 2010 as part of a deal in which the duo co-operate to promote the sport as the premier motor racing champ-ionship in the world and the FIA

Van Miert has given Ecclestone and Mosley three weeks to respond or else he will take action against them. Once Van Miert starts looking at the deals surrounding sport, he might never stop. Until BSkyB upped the ante on the price of live coverage of football in the UK, the amount most European broadcasters paid for filling up their schedules with sport was pitiful. In some cases they still are. And all around Europe there are little pockets of cosy practice which Van Miert

keep the racing teams in line.

might root out.
The reason why Van Miert is concentrating on Formula 1 is because Ecclestone in effect invited him in. By deciding to crystallise the value of his busi-

Van Miert takes pole position **COMMENTARY** by our City Editor

هكذامن رلإمل

ness, he is in danger of destroying that value in the process. If this glorified middleman's com-pany is worth £1.5 billion, it is because of ineffiencies in the market place. These will be maintains a strict rulebook to smoothed out by a combination of Van Miert, the broadcasters and the Formula 1 teams. Ecclestone's company will never float in its current form. Whether it survives in anything approximating to its current

Tricky sums on the high street

form must now also be in doubt.

Someone is miscalculating the strength of consumer demand: retailers, policymakers or shoppers themselves. Perhaps it is Britain's store chains. In areas such as clothing and electronics, they overstocked and began to panic about a poor Christmas. After a reportedly good last weekend, one can only

relatively weak or sweatily late. No wonder that many more big high street names than usual have blinked and started pre-Christmas sales. Autumn trading was peculiar but generally dull before December.

The latest revised national income figures show that consumer spending rose by only 0.7 per cent in the third quarter, less than half the rate in the second quarter of 1997. That includes September, a month clearly affected by the death of Diana. Princess of Wales. That event, however, may also have dis-guised a weakening trend also glimpsed in November.

Many retailers therefore had higher stocks than usual coming into Christmas. Douglas McWilliams, the business economist, reckons that discounts after Christmas may be unusually deep. January 1998 may have to

say with certainty that 1997 the backlog of unwanted stock, at Christmas trade will either be least in some areas of expensive least in some areas of expensive discretionary spending. If that proves true, consumers will have calculated smartly. Unless they succumb to a late surge today and on Christmas Eve, shoppers will have outstared shopkeepers.

Come the New Year, the greatest danger of miscalculation will be at the monthly meetings of the Bank of England's rate-fixing monetary policy com-mittee. They will need to reassess the trends they had assumed when they pushed through five rate rises fast. They should also reassess the

potential inflationary impact of spending, even if it were buoy-ant. The IMFs assault on Asia tigers is already having an impact on luxury markets, for instance for diamonds. This will bring increasing downward pressure on prices of some more modest goods. And the cause of Asian malaise was overproduction, to be cured by devaluation.

Vendôme highly enough — the share price having virtually halved before the Ruperts decided to buy out the 30 per cent they do not own. Korea et al will be selling at sharp prices, diluting any infla-tionary pressure in Western countries from domestic con-

The Ruperts think the market has taken an overly short-term view of Vendôme's exposure to the financial crisis in Japan. They point out that building luxury goods brands can take years of investment and a shortterm problem should not affect the long-term prospects too greatly. The way the market has treated profits warnings from Donna Karan and Gucci support their view. But it is particularly difficult for the average investor to understand how the luxury goods market operates. And if the Ruperts think that the Far East crisis is a short-term blip, then good luck to them. If they are buying Vendôme at a bar-gain price then it is a testimony to their bravery.

All or nothing euro

the high price of its goods. It creates its own exclusivity through the apparent rarity and cachet of its products — selling COMPARED with British political fudge — now most sugary on the euro — Romano Prodi says it Piaget, Montbianc, Dunhill and Chloe. And a great deal of this has to do with their expense. Why else would one purchase a beautifully crafted wallet for £150 refreshingly how it is. In Spain yesterday, Italy's Prime Minister nuked the official line, that joiners, including Latins, would hardly notice the difference. "I am convinced", he said "that once we have the single currency, either the entire system will collapse or price? So it is ironic that the labulously wealthy Rupert fam-ily from South Africa considers else we will achieve convergence". Sounds right. It's just a question of

Chief to net £52m from buyout

By GEORGE SIVELL

BETTERWARE, the doorto-door household goods supplier, yielded to a £117 million bid from its managing director and finance director yesterday. The deal values the holding of Andrew Cohen, chairman, and his family at £52

Mr Cohen is to reinvest between £10 million and £12 million in Fenchurch Place, the NatWest Equi-ty Partners (NWEP) vehicle that has mounted the bid. This will give Mr Cohen between 20 and 24 per cent of the new vehicle. He paid £253,000 for bought the business from

receivers in 1983. The bid emerged from informal talks between Mr Cohen and NWEP, after which NWEP approached Peter Hartley, Betterware's managing director, and Paul Turner, finance director. They helped to mount the bid, which was yesterday recommended by the group's independent directors and Roth-

schild, their advisers. Mr Cohen said: "For some time now my family and I have been looking to reduce our significant in-vestment in Betterware so as to diversify our investment portfolio and pursue other interests."

Mr Cohen is keen to step up the property interests he has developed in the past three or four years.

The bid values each share at 110p. Shareholders have the choice of cash, loan notes, or a socalled unit alternative that gives them an investment in Fenchurch Place on the same terms as Mr Cohen and NatWest. Betterware shares rose 102p to close at 1072p in On trading, Betterware

said that its overseas joint venture operations with Avon were not expected to make a significant contribution to profits until the year 2000 at the earliest and that future development is best achieved as an unquoted company. Mr Cohen will remain as a consultant for up to 12

days a year for a fee of up to £12,000 a year. The fee will be donated to the Betterware Charitable

Bupa wins control of Care First with revised £273m bid

BUPA, the medical insurance group, is about to become Britain's biggest nursing home operator after winning control of Care First with an increased bid of £273

Care First's board decided to recommend Bupa's 170p-ashare offer after it became clear it could not be bettered by Chai Patel, the company's former chief executive who has been trying to put together

deal financed by BC Partners. Acceptances from directors including Keith Bradshaw, Care First's chairman, gave Bupa 24.8 per cent of the company, but it quickly lifted

its stake above 50 per cent by

buying shares in the market.

Bupa's original offer of 150p a

share valued Care First at £241 Mr Bradshaw, a founder of Takare, which merged with



SKETCHLEY, the dry cleaning to cable laying group, yesterday claimed that it has sorted out the accounting deficiencies that led to the £10 million profits black hole discovered last

panies, a substantial motor

dealership and BLT Indus-

tries, a manufacturer of ampli-

fier and PA systems. Much criticised for Care First's re-

cent poor performance, he said: "I look forward [to

spending) a few years indule-

ing my entrepreneurial in-

of Bupa, said the addition of

Care First would make the group the market leader, with

211 homes and 16,000 beds: He

said he believed Dr Patel's

team would have tabled their

stincts not in the public eye." Peter Jacobs, chief executive

black hole discovered last May (Fraser Nelson writes). The company, which fired Richard Meyers as finance director after the deficien-Court Cavendish to form Care First last year, will receive about £21 million for his stake. cies were discovered, said that it has spent £600,000 He will initially remain a nonrestoring financial disci-pline to its retail arm. executive director, and will become a consultant to Bupa. Mr Bradshaw, 55, said he John Jackson, chief execuhas still to decide what to do tive, said the firm is on course next. He is non-executive chairman of two private com-

Sketchley

back from

cleaners

to return to the black this year after a strong performance by ARM, its new cable laying division, contributed to a pretax interim profit of £3.3 million (£2.64 million). Earnigs per share were 3.2p (2.8p). There is no interim dividend.

Tempus, page 24

Press groups move in on two family firms

sumers. Instead of waiting until

February to test fourth quarter

spending before deciding on a

further rise, the committee might usefully discuss straight way

whether it has already put rates up too high for consumers.

Fortunes favour

the brave Ruperts

here is something curious

about Vendome being taken private. This is a company which exists because of

under brand names such as

when something just as service-

able and as hard wearing could

be obtained for a tenth of the

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

THE consolidation of the UK regional newspaper industry intensified yesterday as Johnston Press and Southern Newspapers, two of the ex-panding groups, agreed to buy two traditional family newspaper publishers.

Johnston Press, the fifth largest regional publisher, is paying around £52 million in cash and shares for Home Counties, which publishes 48 paid-for and free weekly newspapers. Its titles include the Hampstead

and Highgate Express.
The Gibbs family controlled the papers for more than 100 years and currently holds a 32 per cent stake...

Tim Bowdler, chief executive of Johnston, yesterday emphasised the possibilities for revenue growth and cost savings from the elimination



Tim Bowdler: cost savings

of corporate and administrative overheads.

Southern Newspapers agreed to pay £35 million for the privately owned Bailey Newspaper Group (BNG). which has been in the Bailey family since its foundation in 1878 and as a result will move

est regional publisher. The group publishes 14 principal titles in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire and South

Home Counties had pre-tax profits of £3.2 million on a £37.3 million turnover last year, while BNG had pre-tax profits of £1.2 million on a turnover of £13.8 million. ☐ United News and Media publisher of The Express, is sifting through the bids for its remaining regional newspa-

The newspaper industry believes that Trinity International is favourite for United's northern titles, which include the Yorkshire Post, and that Tony O'Reilly's Irish Independent group is favourite for the southern titles, mainly in London, Surrey and Essex.

Tempus, page 24

City Diary, page 25 Chai Patel should make £2 million from the deal **Changes at Merrydown** By DOMINIC WALSH

MERRYDOWN, the embattied cidermaker, is to implement a board restructuring that was originally devised as a back-up in case a bid approach failed to produce a formal offer.
As a result, Merrydown vet-

eran Richard Purdey has relinquished the role of executive chairman to become non-executive deputy chairman and Andy Nash, former managing director of Manhew Clark, a rival cidermaker, has been brought in as non-executive chairman.

There was immediately speculation that the talks with the unnamed suitor might have hit difficulties. However, Paul Millman, managing director, said the discussions continued and it had simply been decided that it would be in shareholders' best interests if Mr Nash was brought on

The takeover approach was revealed this month as Merrydown reported half-year losses of almost £1 million as a result

board as soon as possible.

of a sharp drop in sales of Two Dogs, the controversial alcopop. An exceptional charge of £630,000 came from the group's decision to hand distribution of Two Dogs to Scottish & Newcastle.

The identity of the mystery bidder is still not being re-vealed, although speculation has centred on Pernod Ricard, the French drinks group. A brewer or a luxury goods group are also thought to be

own offer yesterday if Bupa had not been willing to top it. Dr Patel and BC Partners indicated to Care First late last week that they were prepared to make an offer close to 170p. Dr Patel, who still owns more than one million shares and 800,000 options in Care First, will make about £2 million from the Buna deal. Paul Saper, of Laing & Buisson, the healthcare analysts, said Bupa had paid a very full price, which it was able to justify because of the additional benefits it receives from its reputation and from cheaper financing. He suggested Dr Patel's former Court Cavendish management team at Care First were still waiting "with their bags packed", ready to rejoin Dr Patel in his

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CHRISTMAS SPECIAL "MERRY PALMPILOT": If you buy a PalmPilot Professional between November 15th, 1997 and January 15th, 1998, choose a free Christmas gift one of the coloured protective cases or a HotSync cable for convenient synchronisation on the road. Please find a detailed description of the offer on each PalmPilot Professional box. The Merry PalmPilot offer is subject to availability.

XMAS-UK 04



MARK and Christina Bunce booked themselves a £2.8 million Christmas present yesterday after agreeing to Austin Reed's £25.9 million bid for Country Casuals, the retail chain they bought out eight years ago. The Bunces, who still share an II per cent stake in the fashion chain despite having resigned from the board, will now sever their links with the company after the failure of their own takeover attempt six months ago.

Austin Reed's 135p-a-share offer comes at a 48 per cent premium to its market value before the latest merger talks were

advances from Mr Bunce and John Shannon, his former colleague, analysts held out little hope for a successful takeover.

John Ketterley, the merchant banker brought in as chairman of Country Casuals in October, said Austin Reed will be able to use its £24 million cash pile to finance badly needed refurbishment of its 67 high street stores. He said: "We don't have the kind of money needed, and the shares would never have gone far without it. Under Austin Reed, the employees have

a better deal." Mr Ketteriey is standing down as chairman. He said: "I joined when the shares were 95p, now the offer is 135p. Its a case of last person out, switch off the

Colin Evans, chairman of Austin Reed, played down the prospect of heavy investment. He said: "It's not so much a question of money, but of getting the

company focused." He intends to lift Country Casuals sales of £325 per sq ft nearer to the £425 level currently achieved by Austin Reed. However, he said that a stock rejuvenation will not be complete until spring 1999. The shares jumped 112p to 1322p

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK Stock Market Writer

US inflation report nips Christmas rally in bud

JUST the faintest hint of inflationary pressure within the US economy was enough to take the gloss off an otherwise promising performance by the London market.

After a slow start, the FTSE 100 index drew encouragement from an opening markup on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones industrial average was sporting a rise of almost 90 points within the first hour of trading. But the leads on both sides of the Atlantic were pared back by a cautious report from the Philadelphia Federal Reserve showing inflation continuing to gather pace throughout 1998, while economic growth faitered.

At one stage the FTSE 100 index was nursing a fall of 15.7. It reduced the deficit to just 2.0 at 5,018.2. With traders now focusing on the seasonal festivities, turnover was low, only 642 million shares chang-

ing hands. Traders now fear we may have seen the best of the pre-Christmas rally and remain cautious about the short term in the face of further losses overnight in Asia

There was some good news for Blue Circle Industries on the day it lost its place as a constituent of the top 100 companies Goldman Sachs. the US securities house, has upgraded its recommendation on the stock from "market underperformer" to "trading buy". Goldman has cut its earnings forecast due to the group's involvement in Malavsia, but maintains that the shares are significantly undervalued. The price rose 21'4p to

RMC Group, up 1912p to 846120, also comes out of the top 100, along with TI Group. (2p firmer at 451/2p. TI was boosted by an asset swap with EG&G, the US company.

Those gaining entry to the exclusive top 100 club included British Energy, up 7p at 427p. and Mercury Asset Manage ment, 9p lighter at £16.80. MAM's reign will prove short-lived. The E3.1 billion bid from Merrill Lynch, the broker, went unconditional last night.

There was another jolt for shareholders of Scotia Holdings, with the price tumbling 52'2p to 365p after the Medicines Control Agency rejected approve Tarabetic, its treatment for diabetic neuropathy. The shares were rocked earlier this month by the departure of David Horrobin, chief execu-



David Montgomery has sold much of his Mirror holding

tive, and his wife. Sherri Clarkson, head of the drug discovery division.

Biocompatibles was another weak market, losing 1012p at 45712p after issuing a warning that second-half losses would exceed those achieved in the first six months. Medeva dipped op to 167p as Lehman Brothers downgraded its 1998 profits forecast, from £108.5 million to £100.8 million after a meeting with the company. It is still looking for £110 million for the current year. Lehman blames a drop-off in sales of its Ionamin obesity drug.

Mirror Group was steady at 19512p despite David Montgomery, chief executive, sellng a large part of his holding in the newspaper publisher. He has exercised an option on 500,000 shares at 6lp, which

LATE RUSH FAILS TO MATERIALISE Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

THE scrummage of shoppers seen over the weekend in London's West End and at various city centres dotted around the country belies the fact that the retailers tills' have been drowned out by carol singers. The shops may have been crowded, but there are still plenty of goods left on the shelves. Some estimates say it could be as much as £3 billion, which means the new year sales will be

brought forward. Many retailers had been hoping for a strong run-up to the crucial festive season. fuelled by a stream of

building society windfalls. Disappointment was hard to conceal vesterday as shares in some of the leadplayers fell by the wayside. Kingfisher dropped 18p to 825p. Great Universal Stores 14p to 722p. Boots 15p to \$66p. Sears 12p to 492p. JJB Sports 142p to 644p. Argos 7p to 5452p, Marks & Spencer 7p to 576p, and French Connection 72p at

The sales may be good news for the consumer, but they will only add further pressure to the retailers 10,000 shares at around the 195p level. He still has options in a further 432,895 shares at prices up to 229p.

Newcomer Savoy Asset Management marked time at 11412p after weighing in with its first trading news since going public in October. The group said the second half should match the performance of the first six months.

Eurotunnel continued to respond to the news that its concession had been extended by an extra 34 years with a rise of 7p at 64p. The concession by both the British and French Governments, means it can operate the cross Channel link until the year 2086.

from Richemont, the Swiss holding company, for the oustanding 30 per cent of Vendôme Luxury Group liftpaying 495p a share, valuing the company at £3.45 billion.

As expected, Austin Reed has emerged as the bidder for Country Casuals, up 1112p at 13212p. Reed, unchanged at 1881 ap, is offering 135p for the troubled women's fashion retailer, valuing the entire business at almost £26 million.

1712p to 16912p. Bupa is now offering an agreed 170p a share, putting a price tag on the nursing homes group of £273 million. Betterware reacted to terms

from Bupa lifted Care First

management buyout with a rise of with a rise of 1012p at

has turned bearish of Powerscreen, leaving the shares 25¹2p down at 614¹2p. GILT-EDGED: Bond prices in London gave up ground late in the day, prompted by opening falls among US Treasury bonds in the face of the report from the Philadelphia Federal Reserve. Trading remained thin.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt finished five ticks lower at £12112 in thin trading.

was £¹32 easier at El01³¹32.

□ NEW YORK: Wall Street was firm as technology shares continued to rebound after a Dow Jones industrial average

New York (midday): 7768.99 (+12.70) Tokyo: Nikkel Average 14799.40 1-515.491 Hong Kong: (0)72,47 (-233,34) Amsterdam: 884.82 (+5.33) Sydney: 2503.4 (-24.7) Frankfurt 4043.02 (-41.73) Singapore

MAJOR INDICES

1541.65 (-30.96) Brussels: 14142-63 (-244.14) Paris: 2869.73 (+46.83) Zurich: London: 3225.5 (-3.2) . 5018.2 (-20) . 4701.8 (-3.3)

RECENTISSUES

FTSE 350 _____ FTSE Eurotrack 100 ... FTSE All-Share 2360.10 (-1.18) FTSE Govt Secs ... German Mark ... 104.7 (+0.2) RPI 159.6 Nov (3.7%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 158.0 Nov (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

FTSE 250.

BCO Techno

Energis (290)

Comland Comm

Fimg Geared Uts General Inds

Gooch & Housego

Manchester & Lon

Market Link Publ

SCS Upholstery Saatchi & Saatchi

Second Scottish

Range Cooker Cmpny 6'1

Rapid Technology 945 Razorback Vehicles 1025

Tetra 176': Vanguard Med Wis 43':

Bdycte Intl n/p (500) 3425

FI Group n/p (640) 260 Taylor Nisn n/p (60) 205

Danka Bs Sys Legal & Gen . Blue Circle ...

Carrs Milling

Bank Scotland

Rio Tinto

FALLS:

Scotia

AB Food

121-07 121-27

Chiroscience

Seton Health

RIGHTS ISSUES

MAJOR CHANGES

515p (+35p)

577p (+18p)

451'ap (+12p)

505p (+11'a0)

618p (+11p)

. 640p (-25p) .. 384p (-11p) 523p (-14'zo)

Vel

387 I O

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112

103

Confirmation of the terms ed the latter 16p to 47712p. It is

The increased bid terms

of the proposed £117 million

Dresdner Kleinwort Benson

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 closed E1s off at £1215s.

while Treasury 7 per cent 2002 sell-off based on Asia fears in recent sessions. By midday the LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

German Govt Bond (Bund) German Govt Bond (Bobl)

Italian Govt Bond (BTP)

Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)

TEMPUS

Press ball hots up

LOCAL and regional newspapers were once the Cinderellas of the publishing sector, beset by falling circulations. However, with two acquisitions announced yesterday, one might be tempted to think that they had become Christmas fashion accessories.

In fact, yesterday's purchases by Johnston Press and Southern Newspapers of Home Counties Newspapers and the Bailey Newspaper Group, respectively, form part of an industry consolidation trend as family-owned groups become absorbed by the bigger battalions. Circulations and advertising rates are on the rise as the economy and the job market improve.

That makes it a smart time for Home Counties and Bailey to sell out. Had they continued, they would have faced increased competition and pressure to invest in their titles to keep them looking up to date. For larger groups, takeovers yield economies of scale - in purchasing, in sharing editorial

content and in lower overheads. How good are yesterday's deals for Johnston and Southern Newspapers and, in particular, what should Home Counties, shareholders do about the 70 per cent share alternative? Southern should be able to raise BNG's profit from the current \$1.8 million. and Fred Johnston has demonstrated that the business of weekly newspapers has some way to go yet. The shares took potentially more interesting than the cash. Meanwhile the new year should bring United's disposal of its regional titles. More opportunity for industry consolidation, but this market is hot and investors should be prepared to sell quickly on any sign of a weakening economy.

Scotia

3415.5 (-1.1)

- 24

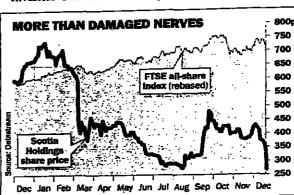
IT IS sadly fitting that David Horrobin's departure as Scotia's chief executive should coincide with the company's ultimate failure to persuade the UK authorities of the virtues of Tarabetic. Based on evening primrose oil, the diabetes drug was a victim of unconvincing results based on small and flawed clinical trials. In a difficult area like diabetic neuropathy, the enthusiasm of Dr Horrobin and his supporters was, once

again, not enough. The late announcement on Friday pushed Scotia's shares down another 17 per cent to 265p yesterday. Early this year, they hit 735p. Tarabetic's problems launched this year's rout in the biotech sector. Yet that apart. Scotia has not had a bad year. Arguably, it se-cured the sector's best licens-

ing deal with Foscan, its impressive light-activated cancer drug. It is about to benefit from the launch of a voghurt with apparently huge promise as a dieting aid. And it has attracted heavyweight management in Rob Dow, the senior Roche executive who is replacing Dr Horrobin. Investors face a nervous

few months while Dr Dow carries out an examination of Scotia's other clinical trial programmes. But he has satisfied himself with Foscan and the yoghurt launch is proceeding as planned.

Scotia is an unusual and high risk company. But for believers in biotech it is, at 265p, worth tucking away as part of a broader portfolio.



Diamonds

IMPLODING Far Eastern currencies have done huge damage to the diamond market. If demand for sparkling rocks fails to recover in that part of the world, it will test the resolve of one of the world's greatest cartels. De Beers yesterday reported that sales were 4 per cent lower in 1997, but the important figure was the 40 per cent decline in sales from the first half to the second half, an indication of the scale of De Beers's intervention to prevent a price

De Beers's Central Selling Organisation is a price-fixing body that attempts to match supply and demand and prevent rough diamond prices from fluctuating wildly. But diamonds are a dollar commodity and the sudden fall in the yen and other Asian cuttencies has nutt the trade. The Japanese account for 30 per cent of retail diamond consumption, while

collapse

economic hardship and high

The problem is that the

prices are hurting consump-

CSO's only response seems to be to preserve the dollar price by reducing the flow of uncut diamonds. This is bad for jewellers and the retail trade who, logically, want to stimulate demand with lower prices. Meanwhile, the organisation faces a threat from BHP and Rio Tinto, which by the end of the decade will be producing large quantities of diamonds from Canada and may or may not join the CSO. There is little economic logic in preserving this cartel, which mainly benefits expensive producers. If diamonds are to find more friends, the

prices need to fall. Sketchley

HOW can a company that lose £10 million of profit through "accounting irregu-

Since the black hole was

WALL STREET

discovered in Sketchley's books this summer. this question has troubled investors and kept the share price in decline. Now, seven months later. Sketchley would appear to be recovering. Its cable laying division a strange stablemate for SuperSnaps — is bringing in the cash while the dry cleaning still struggles. This year the company is on course to

make E7.3 million. But this is proving no comfort to the City. At 42 p — the shares' lowest price for 20 years - no one seems tempted even though they sit on a ratio of 6.4 times this year's earnings and 4.5 times next year. On fundamentals, the shares do look cheap and are worth a punt on takeover speculation alone. But its long-term performance will be dictated by City confidence, and in the absence of a bid, the company fore its shares are taken out of

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

Dec 22 Dec 19 midday close

	COMMODITIES	
LIFFE	ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)	GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
	CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)	LIFFE WHEAT LIFFE BARLEY
COCOA	Brent Physical	(clase E/O (clase E/O)
Dec 1023 BID Mar Un0-1159	Breni 15 day (Feb)	Jan 74.35 Jan 74.3
Mar 1049-1046 May 1177 SLR	Brent 15 day (Mart	Mar 83.90 Mar 77.2
Mas 10-2-1070 Jul unq	W Texas Intermediate (Feb) 18.35 -0.20	May 85.90 May 78.2
fut 1093 SLR Sep 1220 BID	W Texas Intermediate (Mari 18.55 -0.20	Jul
Sep IIII SLR		Sep
Dec 1135-1130 Volume: 9482	PRODUCTS (\$/MT)	Volume (9) Volume
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May 1621 BID Jan	Gasoil EEC 158 (-4) 160 (-4)	may ung 122.0
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	MAT 1903,090 25 Val: 1,946	
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COMMISSION	Feb 17.35-17.37 May 17.60-17.61	ADT 98 1360 1255 125
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markets on December 19	Apr 17 52-17 54 Vol. 11635	
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CB:		
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		Jun 98	92.56	92.57	92.52	92.53	9209
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Viki Rates for Dec 22				1 month	3 mont
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Mki Rates for Dec 22 Amsterdam Brussels Brussels Brussels Brussels Brussels Brussels Brankfurt	Range 3,3356-3,3445 61,080-61,260 11,278-11,306 1,1416-1,1493 2,9600-2,9648	3,335c 61,083 11,279 1,1452 2,4603	Close 5-3.3391 3-01.182 3-11.289 3-1.1474 3-2.9629	1 month 1'-1'-pr 24-19pr '-1-pr	3 month 31e-31ept 62-55pt 11e-1pt 46-40pt 27e-22-pt
Misi Rates for Dec 22 Amsterdam Brussels Copenhagen Dublin Frankfurt	Range 3.3356-3.3445 61.080-01.260 11.278-11.306 1.1410-1.1493 2-9600-2.9648 302-01-303,39	3,335; 61,08; 11,279 1,145; 2,460; 302,64	Close 5-3.3391 3-01.182 3-11.289 3-1.1474 3-2.9629 3-302.99	l month i'-1'.pr 24-19pr '-'.pr 12-5pr !-'.pr	3 month 3'+3'-pt 62-55pt 1'-1pt 40-40pt 2'+2'-pt 2'+1'-pt
Milu Raies for Dec 22 Amsterdam Brussels Copenhagen Dublin Frankfurt Lisbon	Range 3.3356-3.3445 61.080-61.260 11.278-11.306 1.1416-1.1493 2.9600-2.9648 302-61-303.39 250.57-251.24	3,335c 61,08; 11,270 1,145; 2,460; 302,66 250,66	Close 5-3-3391 3-01.182 5-11.299 3-1.1474 5-2-9629 5-301.99 3-250.88	1 month 1'-1'spr 24-19pr '-'spr 12-5pr 1-'s pr '-'spr ol-5tpr	3 month 3'+3'-pi 62-55pi 1'+1pi 40-40pi 2'+2'-pi 2'+1'-pi 178-199pi
Allis Rates for Dec 22 Amsterdam Brussels Openhagen Openhagen Frankfur Isbon Adartid Milan	Range 3.3356-3.3445 61.080-61.206 11.278-11.306 1.1416-1.1493 2.9600-2.9648 302.01-303,24 250.57-251.24 2801.9-2913.2	3.335c 61.08; 11.275 1.1455 2.460; 302,50 250,66 2901.5	Close -3.3391 3-01.182 -11.239 -1.1474 -2.9629 -302.99 3-250.88 -2906.1	1 month 19-19pr 24-19pr 24-19pr 12-5pr 12-5pr 12-5pr 12-5pr 13-12-5pr 14-27pr	3 mouth 3'+3'-pi 62-55pi 1'-1pi 40-40pi 2'-2'-pi 178-15-pi 124-102pi
Mik Rates for Dec 22 Amsterdam Brussels Openhagen Dublin Frankfuri Lisbon Madrid Milan	Range 3.3356-3.345 61.080-61.260 11.278-11.305 1.1416-1.1493 2-960-2-9648 30201-307.39 250.57-251.24 2901.9-2913.2 2.3834-2.3894	3,3356 61,083 11,279 1,1452 2,4603 302,64 250,66 2901,5	Close -3.3391 3-01.182 -11.289 -1.1474 -2.9629 -3.02.99 3-250.88 -2906.1	1 month 1'-1'-ipr 24-19pr ''-ipr 12-5pr 1'	3 month 31-31-pt 62-55p 11-1pt 40-40pt 21-21-pt 12-192pt 124-102pt 1.15-1.06pt
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Mic Rates for Dec 22 Amsterdam Srusses Copenhagen Dublin Frankfur Isbon Madrid Milan Montreal Sew York Dolo Dolo Dolo Dolo Dolo Dolo Dolo Dol	Range 3.3356-3.345 61.080-61.260 11.278-11.306 1.1416-1.149 2-960-2-9648 302-01-109.349 250.57-251.24 2901.9-2913.2 2.3634-2.3894 1.0630-1.0644 12.111-12.149	3.335; 61.08; 11.27; 1.145; 2.960; 302;6; 250,6; 2901;5; 2.3841; 1.60,5;	Close -3.3391 -61.182 -11.259 -11.1474 -2.4629 -302.99 -2.50.88 -2.90.1 -1.2.3863 -1.0.135 -1.0.135	1 month i'-1'spr 24-19pr '-'spr 12-5pr 1-'s pr '-'spr 0-51pr 0-4-27pr 0-63-0-57pr 1228-0-217pr '-'pr	3 month 34-34-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-37-
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Mia Rates for Dec 22 Arnsterdarr Srussels Copenhagen Dublin Frankluri Lisbon Madrid Milan Wontreal New York Osilo Paris Sockholim Tokky	Range 3.3356-3.3445 61.080-61.260 11.278-11.305 2-960-2-9648 302-61-302.39 250.57-251.24 2001-2-913.2 2-3634-2-3894 1.0030-1.6044 12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111-12.111	3.3356 61.083 11.275 1.1455 2.9603 302.64 250.66 2901.9 2.3841 1.0603 12.121 9.9071 12.193 216.77	Close >3.3391 >61.182 >11.289 >1.1474 >2.9629 >1.0029 >250.88 >2906.1 -2.3863 >1.0035 -1.2130 34.9154 >12.9754	I meath 1 1-14pr 24-19pr 24-19pr 12-5pr 12-5pr 14-27pr 03-05-7pr 1228-0.217pr 0 3-3-1pr 1-14-1pr 1-14-1pr	3 month 3'w3'sp; 62:55p; 62:55p; 40:40p; 2'=2'-9; 2'=1'ap; 178-192p; 124-102p; 1.15-1.06p; 1'-1p; 6'+6'-p; 1-3'sp; 4-3'sp;
Mio Raies for Dec 22 Amsterdam Srussels Copenhagen Dublin Frankfuri Lisbon Madrid Milan Monureal Very York Oslo Paris Sockholm Lökyö Lienna	Range 3.3356-3.445 61.080-01.260 11.278-11.305 1.1410-1.1493 2.4600-2.9448 302-01-303.39 2.901.4-2413.2 2.963-2.3894 10.050-1.6044 12.111-12.149 4.9073-9.9450	3.3356 61.03 11.275 1.1455 2.9603 372.05 250.05 2901.5 2.3841 1.063 12.122 9.907 12.93 216.77 20.827	Close >3.3391 >51.239 >11.29 >1.1474 >2.9629 +302.99 >250.88 +2906.1 -2.3863 >1.0635 (1.2130 39.9154 +12.946 +217.03 -20.847	1 meath 1'1'-pr 24-19pr ''-pr 12-5pr 1'-pr ''-pr 61-51pr 44-27pr 0.43-0.57pr 1-228-0.217pr 0 3''-pr 1'-1'-pr ''-pr ''-pr	3 month 31x33xpr 62x55pr 11x1pr 40x40pp 21x24pr 178x159pr 1.15x106pr 11x15x106pr 11x15x106
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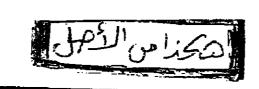


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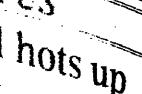
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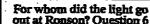
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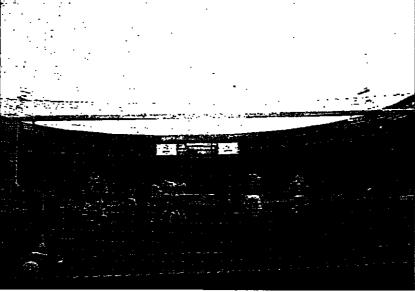








What do you get if you pour Guinness into Grand Metropolitan? Question 27



هكذامن الإمل

Can you name the player whose injury hit his chib's shares, and which quoted football club found itself relegated into administration? Questions 14 and 19



Who decided he had had enough of

Can you remember who made the City headlines this year?

1. Which noted firebrand and rebel told currency specula-tors it was their duty to blow fixed exchange rates apart once the European currency became a reality? (Clue: the answer is neither George nor Mahathir

Did Roger Levitt begin his career at Barlow Clowes, Slater Walker or M&S? Question 24

2. Which retail star opened a children's boutique on the King's Road and then attempted a comehack takeover of the company that had originally

Why did a mummified pigmy cause a stir in the City?

4: Which TV mogul quit the industry for a life of leisure at

us family firm? 5. Which celebrity chef was hired by Granada to ginger up the restaurants at its Forte

6. Name the former celebrity undertaker whose career at Ronson, the lighter maker, was abruptly extinguished.

7. And the much married boss whose career at United Utilities was suddenly under

8. And the sailing-mad merchant banker now serving behind the mast at the Bank of England?

9. Which City merchant bank finally won the hand of Simon Robertson, the former head of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson and City heavy hitter who was Times writers trawl back through the business year

in search of questions fit to test your knowledge

courted by several big institu-tions when he fell out with its couples. Coopers & Lybrand, German management?

10. XXX by XXX was the typically self-effacing autobiography published this year by which American media magnate?

il. Which Tory grandee was being heavily tipped in the summer as the new chairman of GEC, a post still vacant as the year closed?

Ernst & Young, KPMG, Price

dog is called (a) the Financial Regulatory Group (b) the Financial Services Authority (c) the Financial Services Group d) the Super-SIB e) the Child Support Agency?

14. Name the star footballer

for the share price of his football club?

15. Which former England cricket star is currently using his spinning skills to guide a quoted vehicle investing in the Philippines?

16. Which former motor racing champion steered his company to a stock market

whose injury was an own goal 17. Which former rugby inter- in a suburban car park?

national decided he had had enough of baked beans?

18. Which Rugby League club became the first to float on

19. Which quoted football club found itself relegated into administration?

20. Which takeover bid was scuppered by a secret film of documents being handed over



Was it Kevin Keegan, Lord Moyne or Neville Chamberlain who was most trusting? Question 23

tor and former brewer was deprived of his Liberty?

22. Which Prince failed to take possession of his Princess. despite months of courtship?

23. Who said: "I thought, these are decent people. I shall trust them."? (a) Neville Chamberlain; (b) Kevin Keegan; (c) Lord Moyne.

24. Where did Roger Levitt begin his career? (a) Barlow Clowes; (b) Slater Walker; (c) Marks & Spencer

25. The Guinness Report: How long did it take, how many pages does it run to, and how much did it cost? (a) 11 years, 309 pages, £3.1 million; (b) 15 years, 900,000 pages, £5 million; (c) 20 years, 5 pages,

26. What momentous event did the Serious Fraud Office celebrate this year? (a) Staff received their first Christmas hampers; (b) Express lifts were installed at Elm House; (c) It achieved convictions in 10 out of 10 fraud trials.

27. What is the name created by Guinness and Grand Metropolitan for their newly merged company? (a) Diageo; (b) Vesuvio; (c) Lothario.

Compiled by Martin Waller, Jason Nissé and Jon Ashworth.

Answers will be published in The Times Business section on Boxing Day

KPMG Management Consulting has produced a festive variant of The Twelve Days of Christmas — only it's all about EMUI "On the first day of EMU, KPMG warned me there'll soon be a single currency." Oh, we laughed around here, I can tell you. I will spare you more. (Or I might re-produce the whole thing in the New Year, if Santa is not very, very good to me). But I have a snap of Michael Littlechild, a partner, giving a rendition. I leave it to you to decide how much he is enjoying the experience.

MARTIN WALLER



Michael Littlechild: only 12 days to go

It's not just the thought that counts

nactly how did your come to resemble an Argos catalogue showrocom? As you survey the motley collection of leather jotters, fountain pens, branded windcheater jackets, Waterford crystal and cuddly toys the answer dawns on your someone, somewhere is trying to say thank you.

Along with countless other businessmen and women you are the target of a concerted marketing drive which climaxes at about this time of year in a stampede of calf-skin desk diaries. Long regarded as a dumping ground for cheap merchandise the idiosyncratic corporate gift industry is striving to rid itself of its "freebie" image and enter the marketing mainstream as a viable method of winning custom-

George Hayward, who as chairman of the British Advertising Gift Association represents the middlemen in the exchange process, says "gifting" remains a cheap and effective way of building that all-important one-to-one relationship.

"If advertising is like grapeshot then this is sniper fire. You're never certain with advertising, but send them a gift and you know you're getting your message through to that individual,"

the market is worth £500 million a year in the United Kingdom. That figure is set to rise as companies send fewer, but higher-quality items rather than flood the market with mediocre merchandise.

Gill Thorpe, director of The Sourcing Team, a com-pany specialising in promotional merchandise, says: These days people tend to concentrate on quality rather than on quantity. People can work out the cost of things very quickly so it's better to go for something with added value, something that they won't necessarily know the price of."

T-shirts and cheap cutglass tumblers may still be the preferred medium for a mass promotion, but to make a real impact companies are tailoring gifts to suit the needs of the individual customer.

No longer can the industry favourite – a black leather diary discreetly embossed with the company logo — be relied upon as the best vehicle for your message. With some 50 million diaries - two for every adult in the country — sent to companies each year, only the diary that cuts a dash wins the day.

Colin Cowan, managing director of diary maker Castelli UK, says: "When you advertise, your ad should be unique and the More companies are ask-

ing for different colours, materials and radical designs to give their diaries a fighting chance of staying on the recipient's desk and not landing in the bin. "The English think the diary should be staid and black but things are changing. What would you rather have, one really individual diary or five black leather ones?" says Mr Cowan.

Does anyone want them at all? Everyone does it but no one really knows why, or whether it even works.

The giving and receiving of gifts is a sensitive subject and shrouded in secrecy. Measurement of effectiveness is virtually impossible. Donors rarely divulge how much they give away and whether it works. Likewise, those who regularly receive gifts are unwilling to slate them for fear of being branded churlish.

Gifting has slowly, but surely, woven its way into the fabric of business life. Yet despite the boom reported by the industry, many companies still regard the line between a corporate gift and bribery as one they would prefer not to tread. employees from accepting gifts or entertainment worth more than £35 or 1 per cent of that person's monthly

One high street bank has a room in its City headquarters nicknamed Aladdin's Cave, where gifted merchandise is stored and then sold

Others simply don't want yet another paperweight on their desk. "I'm having to say to people 'look, I'm not doing business with you because you give me a gift box set of port and cheese -nice though that may be. I'm with you because you give me good service'," says the sales director of a small engineering company who wanted to remain

s with any advertis-Aing medium it can fall victim to poor targeting. Most companies aim their gift marketing at the highest tier of a company's management. They should lower their sights, says an unnamed Ford dealership fleet sales manager who spends £25,000 a year

There is often no point in hitting the decision maker. Once he has made that decision he walks away from it for another two years, leaving the running of the business to a team of minions beneath him. They are the ones you have got to hit. But at the end of the day you can't buy loyalty."

JULIAN LEE

C BISHESS LETERS ...

Policyholders accept management costs, but what of mismanagement? From Mr W. M. Roberts none of these costs should fall

Sir, You gave prominence to the report of the Financial Services Authority on the Prudential Corporation (Business News, December 17). I am not one of those who was a victim of mis-selling of pension poli-cies but I shall, from next year, be dependent in part on annuities provided by retirement annuity policies.

Contributors to policies accept that they have to incur the costs of managing the funds they subscribe.

In the case of policies with mutual societies, there is, it seems, no one to bear the costs of compensating those who were sold the wrong policies, of ascertaining who should be compensated and the "fines" levied by the regulators other than policyholders themselves. In the case of companies

have it in their power to ensure that the directors provide skilled management and appropriate compliance proce-dures. What steps is the Financial Services Authority taking to ensure that holders of policies with companies bear only the costs of managing their policies and not the costs of "mismanaging" their mar-keting and sales operations in a way which has given rise to the need for compensation and its associated costs? Yours faithfully, W. M. ROBERTS, Brock House. Manor Lane. Great Chesterford,

on policyholders but should be borne by the shareholders who own the business and

Letters to the The Times Business section may be sent by fax to 0171 782 5112 or by e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Saffron Walden,



Paid monthly

CARBERS don't come much shorter than this. Gerard Wainwright, appointed chief executive of Care First on December 13, could be queueing up at the DSS by the New Year. Well not exactly at the DSS, because he is not short of a bob or two, having already sold one business and turned around another, but you know what I mean. Yesterday's agreed bid for the nursing homes group from Bupa means he could be out of a job, if the new owners decide to run the show themselves. And no pay-off, because he was brought in on a one-month



Was told you a woman's best friend was socks? ..."

contractual obligations on the part of the company — I got involved in the knowledge that a bid was on the table. They insisted on one month, he says, which must have given the negotiations with the head-hunters a

The business he sold in 1993 was Britain's biggest hospital bedmaker, and healthcare remains his first love. We reminisce briefly about the days when his biggest competitor in the hospital bed business doubled up, perversely, as a civil engineer.

☐ THE Salomon Brothers name no longer existing after the merger with Smith Barney, the American investment bank was left with various bits of corporate merchandise.— gymbags, golf balls and, for some reason. a large number of those fashionable fleecy tops — still carrying it. The bank has just auctioned these, raising £10,000 for the Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund. There was some spirited secondary dealing, too, after someone from equities cornered the market in golf balls and fixed income snapped up all the fleecy tops.

Heavy weather

JOHN KETTELEY, the former War- wife is going to have something to say burg merchant banker who chairs about it."



Country Casuals, is hoping for a quiet week, having just pulled off his third deal in ten days. A bleary Ketteley recalls that a big disposal ten days ago by Eleco, chairman J Ketticley, was followed by a disposal by BTP, chairman ditto, late last week. Then Country Casuals was bought by Austin Reed yesterday. He emphasises the contributions of his various colleagues but admits: "It wasn't much fun getting up at six o'clock and getting to bed at half past four." Ketteley is chairman of a fourth company, Prolific Income Trust. Anything happening there

over the next few days, perhaps?
He sounds appalled, as if the idea has only just occurred to him. "No. But if something does, I think my

EMU on song Goose cooked

AS the old year ebbs away, what news of an old friend of this column, the disgraced German property ty-coon Jürgen Schaeider? The one-time fugitive from justice, whose colourful fence was that the banks must have known he was a crook, as no one could have been so stupid as to believe him, will today learn of his sentence. In a folksy and heartfelt plea at the end of the six-month trial, Schneider has begged the judge to let him walk free, saying he would like nothing more than to spend Christ-mas at home in Frankfurt eating goose with his family. The prosecutors are in less festive mood. Schneider has also come clean on another vital matter. The famed toupée, about as convincing as his defence, has gone.

□ WHEN you run a group like The Mirror with all that colourful history behind it, the last people you want to tangle with are the Inland Revenue. So David Montgomery, Mirror chief executive, yesterday did a bit of financial spring cleaning, selling 510,000 shares at 195p, largely to meet liabilities incurred under new legislation that requires payment in advance of half the bill for the latest gains on options. Monty is sitting out the two big Christmas media auctions, the sale of IPC by Reed Elsevier and United's disposal of its remaining regional newspapers.

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LONDON

MESSIAH The 250-strong Goldsmith's Mesistari The 200-indig domain the Choral Union combine lordes with the London Philhamsonic Ordersha for the Iradinanal pre-Chaistrias performance of Iradinana pre-transites perantimental Hundel's magnificant oration Scioists Indicate Mary Hegarty and Amel-Manie Overs Shari Winght conducts Albert Half Ecosyngton Goto SWT (0171-889-8212) Tonight, 1 30pm

A more modest-scale Massiah can be a more requestration and mis-acclaimed vocal ensemble Polyphany, backed by instrumental group Canzan backed by instrumental group Carabha-ractie the work. A dispreguished line-up of solosts includes Erram Kirdby, James Bowman and John Mark Ainsley St. John's Smith Square, SWI 10171-1061) Torright, 7 30pm

SPITALFIELDS FESTIVAL: A concert SPITALFIELDS FESTIVAL'A concert by the Joylul Company of Singers directed by Peter Broadbard readures compositions aropred by the Nativity ranging from the Rendstance music of Victoria and Gabriel to the Coth-century works of Pouleir and Barber The programme also oness a work premiero of a work by Juden Weir filtures are benefitted. Jerusalerri Christ Church Conmercial Street Et (9171-377 0287) Toroght 6 30pm

WILLIAM TELL: The arraid winning Natural Theatre Company gives its version of how Rosem came to compase his open about the Saiss hero. Whacky props, beane characters. hero Whacks progs beans chalaters and shustoms and shilled musicaliship form part of the company's unique performance style. Director is John Abulata, with Ralph Granch doubling as Tell and the Italian composer from which the music is borrowed. Purcell Room South Bank, SE1 (0171-960-2042). Tonight, Spm.

ELSEWHERE BIRMINGHAM: The City of Birmingham Symptomy Orncestra and Youth Choruses under School

■ ART Ran Cook, Nigel Havers and Malcoling from hims exceptionally interesting drama about mendatup, unspotion resortment and an almost all-white partning. Wyndfum's Channg Cross Road, WCC (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat Rommats Wat 3pm Sat and Sun Spm. ART Ran Cook, Nigel Havers and

E BEAUTY AND THE BEAST C BEAUTY AND THE BEAST PROCESS (IN UMBOUND A IN BROADWAY MUSICAL JUBB-Alanah Brighten and Alasdar Hanvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Deret Griffiths and Norman Rossington Dominion Toronham Court Road, W1 (01712-16 600) Mon-Sal, 7 30pm, mall calls 200-200.

■ DAVID COPPERFIELD Likable compression job on Dickers novel Integrand set and a not sast of eccentral characters. Damien Mathews place David.

eccentric characters Datum materials plays David
Greenwich, Crooms Hill SE10 (0151-858 7755) Mon-Sar 7 45pm, mat Sar, 2 30pm and week mate Dec 18, 2 30pm, Dec 22, 26, 27, 29, 3pm, Jan 15 2 30pm Umil January 24 👸

IN THE FRONT PAGE Alur. ATTHE FRONT PAGE AlunAmstrong and Grill Rinks Jones play nard-nosed editor and ace reporter, leading a lovely cast in Sam Mendas's production of the classic Ben Height Charles MacArdhur comody Dossmar Warehouse, Eartham Street WC2 (0171-389 1732) Mon-Sat 7 30pm mats Wed and Sat 30m

3

IN THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR the presumed inspector, Bhan Murphy as his servant and lan McDiarmid as the devious Mayor in Gogol's saline.

Almeida Theatre 108 Almeida Sireet.

CLOSE-UP: Impovenshed man poses as an Iranian film director. Fascinating and humane drama, based on truth, from Abbas Niarostam.

ICA (5) (0171-930 3547) Pilo (0171-254 6677)

◆ GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (U)

GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (U) Fazanesopa haro finds romance in America. Passacie romp based on the TV cartoon senes, with Brendan Fraser and Lesfe Mann Greenwich (0181-315-325). Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315-425). Kensington (0181-315-4214) Marble Arch (0181-315-4216) Virgins: Chelse: (0171-325-69%) Trocadaru (§) (0181-316-616). UCI Whiteleys (§) (0290-688290)) Werner (§) (0171-437-4343).

HOME ALONE 3 (PG): Another Christmas, another hid left along to fight manuders. Unappealing sequel with a different rule (Alex D. Linz) and a.

ns: Camden (0181-315 4.355)

Paugher edge Director, Raja Gosnoti ABC Baker St (0171-935 9772)

Odeons: Camoen (0181-315 42551 Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-372 2121) UCI Whiteleys (01990 888990) Virgins: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Trocadero (010181-

pleasing cornedy about gays and straights in New York, With Nick Scott-

Anthony Barrie, Director, Tony Virale Metro (0171-437 0757) Rifzy (0171-

PRINCE VALIANT (PG) Spinted noncense set in Arthunan times, with Stephen Moyer, Fatherine Heigl and

KISS ME, GUIDO (15). Crowd-

NEW RELEASES

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

Halsey performs a programme of Halsey performs a programme or seasonal music oftening the sudence a chance to sing along to a selection of tavourite Christmas carols Symphony Half, Broad Steet (01.21-212 3333) Tonight, 7 30pm (\$2

Also in Birmingham Fun and troles are in stare for partornine goess as a star-studded cast headed by boung champion Frank Brunn desired having with the desire har in Confidential with the classic tery tale Goldflocks and the Three Bears Billed as Brian's biogest pantomine the



Frank Bruno stars in Goldilocks, Birmingham

House fulf, returns only
Some seats available
Seats at all prices

N1 (0171-359 4404) Opens Dec 17. 7pm Then Mon-Sai, 7 30pm, mat Sat. 3pm Unit January 31 👸

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Return of Peter Hull's enjoyable production, brimful of deceptions. Stampo Martin Shaw and Smon Ward, and Fate

O'Mara as the shelte troubernaker Gielgud, Shaftesbur, Ave, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mort-Sar, 7 45pm mats Thur

THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom

Stoppard's new play with John Wood as the elderly A. E. Housman, careful to

keep his love life private unlike Oscar Wilde, who also appears i Paul Rhys plays the young Housman Richard Evre

the heart of Adnan Noble's superb-lbsen production. Guilt, remorse and remewal on the fjord. Ptt, Barboan Centre, Sik St, EC2 (0171-638 8991), Tonight, 7.15pm. THEATRE GUIDE

THE MAGISTRATE INT. at THE MAGISTRATE Ion Richardson pileys the much harassed here or a fittully furny revival of Princia's farce Cast includes Graham Crowden, Fran Muddlemass, John Padden Savoy, The Strand, WCZ (0171-636 8888) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. (2)

effects and heaps of lamily fun Hippodrome, Hurst Street (0121-522 7486) Opens lonight, 7 15pm Then evis, 7 15pm; mets at varying times Until 14 Feb. (§)

CARDIFF: Following last Christmas's

soaraway success the magnificent Moscow City Ballet returns to town

with a Christmas speciacular of two of Tchakovsiy's best-loved ballets: The Sleeping Beauty and The Nutcracker. With the National Ballet Orchestra.

St David's Hall, The Hayes (01222) 878-44) Beauty Opens (oday, 2.30) 7.30 Then Dec 27, 29, 30, 2.30pm.

7 30pm; Doc 28, 5pm, Closed Dec 34-26 Nutcracker Opens Jan 2, 7 30pm

Jan 4.5pm 👸

Then Jan 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 230pm, 7.30pm;

LEEDS. Entertainment for all the family is offered here as Wild Rose Internations presents its new spectacular The Sleeping Beauty on Ico. Sot to

Seeping Beauty on too. Sot to Tchakonsky's glorous score the production is performed by the Russian les Stars, some 20 Olympic standard skaters, with the national chempions Skaters and Mungova and Alerie Killatov in the roles of Beauty and the Prince. The choreography is by Guissippe Arena and Valen Pericherski. Grand Theaths. 46 New Binggare (0113-245 9351/440971) Tonight, 7 30cm Then eyes. 7 30cm. some

7 30pm Then eyes, 7 30pm, som

mais, 2.30pm and 3pm. Closed Christmas Day, Ends Jan 3. 👸

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Carter (0171-323

TREASURE ISLAND Tom Georgeson straps himself into the wooden leg for Ned Bartlett's adaptation of Stevenson's classic tale of praies, doubloons, cuttasses and a longing for toasted cheese Lyric, lying Street, WiS (0181-741 2311) Mon Sat. 7 Tolony (cereb) Tec. 31, formulations Mon-Sai, 7.30pm (except Dec 31, 6pm) mals Sai, 2.30pm and Dec 23,24,26,31, 2.30pm, mars Dec 9,11,16, Jan 8,14

LONG RUNNERS □ Cats: New London (0171-405 0072)
□ Gresse: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . □ An Inspector Calls
Gamck (0171-494 5085) ■ Jesus

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CURRENT

The Scottish play on words

Ou do not need to know any Donizetti to enjoy the annual pantomime at the Players' but it adds to the pleasure, as does a bit of Bellini and a vestige of Verdi, because the Victorian pantos the company resurrects, usually those by Henry Byron, plundered opera for tunes. The chosen style was burlesque. which has now vanished from the theatre, although it sometimes surfaces elsewhere, famously in the musical skits of The Two Ronnies.

Mocking what other areas of the theatre take very seriously - such as death, murder, abduction, Valkyries on horseback or marrying your mother - burlesque introduces a sense of proportion and restores an audience to normal life (always assuming this normality excludes murder, mayhem

and mother-marriage). Alliteration is something else Byron brazenly baked into his scripts, along with deliberately dreadful puns that bring groans to the gullet.

For some mad reason of his own, Byron grafted the story of the two dear little abandoned babies onto the home life of the Macbeths. Perhaps Balmoral had just been built when this panto was written (1859) and Scotland was back in fashion again as a result. Thus we have Sir Rowland and Lady Beth Macassar, guardians of the offspring of an elder brother supposedly drowned at sea. Three witches gather around a cauldron and spread seeds of dark deeds into the minds of the Macassars, who appear in turn through a patch of gauze in the heather-tinted backdrop. Lady Beth would like to become a

thane in her own right, to which a protesting hubby replies (and it is par for the punning course): "You must be mad - you surely can't be thane!" As Robert Meadwell plays him, hesitant. harrowed and hunched with guilt, you can all but hear the exclamation mark at the end of the line.

The Babes in the Wood Players'

The entire show is written in couplets, and I cannot say to what extent Geoffrey Brawn, adapter and director, has twiddled with them. There is no pretence at poetry, of course, and a line can be distributed between several speakers in an enjoyably ludicrous manner.

So, for example, when the missing father reappears on the scene (surprise, surprise) and the amorous governess asks the Fairy Queen if she is the missing mother, all three characters share the second line of the couplet, thus: Their stepmother, I confess./He is a widower." "Oh. are you?" "Yes."

The Players' has perfected the style of performing with the tongue metaphorically wedged in the cheek, but there are areas of the present production where a touch of restraint should have been employed. The witches are not played well, and the brattish behaviour of the adolescent babes (Michelle Grant and Jennifer Morton) sparks no mirth in the audience.

Fortunately there is enough in other parts of the show to satisfy the wish for arty nonsense: the ferociously kilted Meadwell, and his superbly contralto missus (Eleanor McCready), sleep-walking in a mob cap, moaning and sobbing on cue; Jo Napthine's Fairy Queen regularly announcing her identity with a snatch of adapted Verdi; Pat Lancaster's nicely coy Governess doing something of the same sort to maintain her decorum. And when a dead robber has to be removed from the stage, he turns into a ghost and strides off. Admirable.



JEREMY KINGSTON Sporran partners: Jennifer Morton and Michelle Grant as the Babes

POP: Company loves misery of California's beautiful losers; devil of a noise from Ipswich

Adam and the angst

Counting Crows Olympia, Dublin 👵

IF, AS Henry David Thoreau observed, most men lead lives of quiet desperation, the American representatives of the sex are generally a bit more vocal about their trials and tribulations. From Kurt Cobain to Mark Eitzel, the West Coast is as noted for the degree of existential fear and selfloathing among its pop community as it is for sun-tanned psychedelia and surt rock.

So it should not come as that much of a surprise to find that for California's Counting Crows, it is permanently December and always, always raining. But while the angst-soaked lyrics and winsome whine of singer Adam Duritz suggest another troubled soul who just wasn't made for these times. he appears to be, judging by the near hysteria which greeted his every strut, the pop star with whom everyone in the audience would most like to share an umbrella.

Duritz himself seemed bamboozled by the reaction. One senses he is uneasy with his sex symbol status, but every now and then he plays up to it: such as when standing on the monitor during Rain King, for example, arms outstretched, declaring that he "belongs in the service of the Queen".

But more than anything else, the dreadlocked Duritz wants to be taken seriously. Rather than just trot out the songs and lap up the adoration he opted for substantial reworkings of his material. At one stage, during Round Here, he even shushed the audience so we could all hear another of Charles Gillingham's ponderous keyboard breaks.

Given that this was a Friday night and the penultimate gig of a 16-month tour promoting the album Recovering the Satellites, one would have expected a little less intricacy and a little more exuberance. Indeed, the acoustic set usually a welcome breather between the opening dash and closing sprint of a show - lasted for more than half the gig. At times, the show seemed like one long rehearsal for that Unplugged special which must be just around the corner.

But you can't blame a band for wanting to keep things interesting for themselves and in truth the blend of plaintive accordion, mandolin and acoustic guitar was not without its charm. Indeed, their finest moment is possibly the piano-led lament, A Long December, which made for a sadly beautiful encore.

NICK KELLY

Counting Crowley

RATHER like the anti-heroes of gangsta rap, black metal bands tread a fine line between absurd burlesque and grim reality. For those unfamiliar with the genre, black metal is an extreme combination of gothic rock and thrash metal garnished to taste with a vaguely Satanic or anti-Christian philosophy. In Norway, where they take these things seriously, the singer of a black metal Burzum was jailed for 21 years for murdering a member of a rival band. In ipswich, Cradle of Filth's home town, the worst that has happened so far is that a couple of fans have been cautioned for wearing the group's gratuitously offensive T-shirts.

slowly, like that of Black Sabbath, but more often judicrously fast in a bizarre. comic-book style invented in the 1980s by Napalm Death. On songs including A Gothic Romance (Red Roses for the Devil's Whorej and the title track of their album, Dusk and Her Embrace. Dani's vocals alternate between a high. strangulated yell and a deep, vomitsimulating roar.

The audience is almost as entertaining to watch as the band. Some lurk in the shadows, their white-painted faces and black panda eyes a homage to originators such as Count Dracula and Alice Cooper. Others hurl themselves towards the group, surfing over the heads of the crowd to land in the arms of the over-worked security staff patrolling the foot of the stage.

Despite much effort, the on-stage theatrics are distinctly low-budget. During the last number a dominatrix appears brandishing a Super Soaker water gun filled with a gooey railiquid. She squirts it at the crowd. bt. the pump is faulty, and most of it lands on the bald head of the long-suffering

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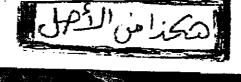
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Rent for London

THEATRE: The West End will see Rent, the hottest ticket in Broadway, next year. The musical, a reworking of uccini's opera La Bohème first places the story in ent-day New York, opened at the New York February 1996, before transferring to Broadway in April that year. It then played to continuously old-out houses and won four Tony Awards. The death chubby thighs. of its young creator, Jonathan Larson, just before the show opened did nothing to hinder its subsequent cult ccess. Four of the Broadway east will be starring in the

POP: The backlash ainst the Prodigy title Smack My Bitch Up continues with the decision by 4,000 American higheet stores to remove the Down containing the song from their shelves. Wal-Mart and Kmart stores decided not to stock Prodigy's Fut of the Land album Her American newspapers ffensive title of its most otorious song, and the National Organisation of Women declared that it giorified domestic violence. Wal-Mart and Kmart are among the largest record etailers in America, but belated: the album is already a top seller.

London production, which

opens at the Shaftesbury

Theatre on May 12.

MUSIC: The power of the Internet has forged an unlikely rapport between a Chinese radio station and that very English organisation. the Elgar Society. A classical music presenter on Nanjing Music Radio contacted the society by sending an e-mail to its Website, and asked for "a few classical CDs composed by Elgar", because they were difficult to buy in China. The society responded with 17 recordings of the composer's work, and are now attempting to establish links with other Chinese radio stations. A case of pomp rising to the challenge of circumstance, perhaps.

FILM: Emir Kusturica, the perennial darling of the European film festival circuit, is to direct one of Dennis Potter's last projects - a screenplay adaptation of The White Hotel that radically reinterprets D.M. Thomas's most celebrated Laovel. A complex chronicle of a woman's life and fantasies from 1900 to the start of the Second World War, the book has been translated into 20 languages since the Cornish author wrote it in 1981. Potter, who died in 1994, was loned to write a screen adaptation by the producers Robert Geisler and John Roberdeau in 1990.

Richard Cork takes a cool look at a disturbing, newly revealed Renaissance image of the Nativity

A holy mother knows best

limpsed from a dis-tance, Sebastiano del Piombo's painting seems the quin-tessence of tenderness. Executed on a tondo-shaped panel, the picture uses its circular format to emphasise a binding intimacy between mother and offspring. We appear to be spying, as if through an enlarged keyhole, at a private scene. The Virgin leans forward to handle the cloth swathing her child's Until recently the painting

was in a private collection, little-known other than to Renaissance specialists. But now that the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge has purchased it for £1.6 million, with the help of a lottery grant, the picture can be studied by anyone. And as we draw nearer, the more troubling Sebastiano's image becomes.

Sebastiano was still a young man when he painted this gravely affecting Madonna and Child. Probably executed soon after he left Venice for Rome in 1511, the panel marks a decisive moment in his development. Having worked closely with the shortlived Giorgione, he knew how to saturate his paintings with the Venetian palette at its most sensuous. But the move to Rome, at the invitation of the banker Agostino Chigi, brought about a profound change. Painting mythological frescoes at the Villa Farnesina. Sebastiano encountered Raphael's work in the same building. Above all, he must have been astounded by the awesome ceiling cycle Michelangelo was completing at the Sistine Chapel.

The two men became friends. Michelangelo provid-ed Sebastiano with drawings to help him with three major commissions, most notably a monumental Raising of Lazarus now in the National Gallery. Sebastiano became a stern Roman classicist, and was rewarded in 1531 with the keepership of the papal seals or piombatore - a post which gave the artist his enduring nickname. Even in a Rome work as

early as the Madonna and Child, he is determined to cast aside beguiling Venetian lyricism. Both figures in the Fitzwilliam tondo are grander than anything he had pro-duced before. Rather than relying on drawings supplied by Michelangelo, Sebastiano ms here to have taken his main stimulus from the Sistine Chapel itself. The child's twisted pose appears to be based on one of the angels supporting God in Michelangelo's magisterial fresco
The Creation of Adam. As for Sebastiano's Virgin, she derives from the imposing figure of the Cumaean Sibyl on the Sistine ceiling. The wrinkled woman in Michelangelo's painting has become a youthful mother, and Sebastiano makes his Madonna slimmer than the sturdy, strangely muscular old prophetess. But this Virgin is still formidably well-built.



Sebastiano's powerful Madonna and Child: the goldfinch clutched in the boy's hand is more than a mere childish distraction, as his mother knows

She inclines her head towards the child with impressive dignity. The Roman kerchief covering much of her hair dangles on one side, defining her profile with chiselled clarity. She does not smile, and her broad, lowered eyelid adds to the sense of gravitas. Although this Madonna lacks the seasoned wisdom of the Cumaean Sibyl, she possesses hieratic authority in abundance. Enough of her neck is visible to establish its strength. And the dark cloth of honour providing the Virgin's backdrop, just as it does in so many paintings by Sebastiano's master Giovanni Bellini, reinforces her sculptural solidity.

The edge of the cloth sends a powerful vertical line slicing down through the picture, threatening to sever the mother from her infant. But Sebastiano ensures that the

Madonna's resolute arms stretch across this division. She is firmly linked with the child, and her right hand closes on his shoulder with -unusual, clamp-like con-

thing else, those resolute fingers offer the key to understanding the picture's full significance. For Sebastiano juxtaposes their pallid, fiercely denched angularity with the soft and fluffy glow of a goldfinch. The Christ child holds the bird in his plump fist. He has clearly been playing with it, and the distraction accounts for his extravagantly twisted pose. The Virgin's clasping hand causes his head to swivel back in her direction. He must have sensed the persistence of his

mother's protective gesture,

and gazes up at her with an air of puzzlement. Why does she seek to divert

him from the bird? His involvement with the pet seems harmless, and Sebastiano places it against a landscape enchanting enough to assoloyed delight. There, in a setting where sunlight tinges the walls of a hilltop town and makes a high cloud blaze with whiteness, Sebastiano allows himself to recall his past. It is an act of homage to his origins, and proves that he could still paint with all his

former Venetian charm. But the appeal of the countryside seems fugitive compared with the heavy, assertive bulk of mother and offspring. Their convoluted interplay gives the painting its central tension, and the Virgin has good reason to wrest her child's attention away from

this painting, that the goldfinch, widely favoured as a per in loth-century Italy, was also a symbol of Christ's passion and death. When Michelangelo carved the marble tondo Academy, he made the Christ

child recoil in alarm from the

goldfinch offered by John the

Baptist, Sebastiano's infant is

not frightened by his bird, but

the bird. She knows, as well as

the patron who commissioned

the Madonna appreciates its larger meaning only too well. This is a mother who. alerted by the goldfinch, wants to be reunited with her son. She tries to prevent him moving impulsively away, beyond the safety of her grasp. The true extent of the Virgin's determination is disclosed by her attempt to wrap him in the

drane she herself is wearing.

The brilliant vellow cloth runs

like an umbilical cord between

the stubborn assertion of maternal will. But the boy reembrace with reluctance, and already seems oppressed by a premonition of the suffering to

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge (01223-332900), then at the Royal Academy's Art Treasures of England exhibition from Jan 22

Madonna and infant, and

signifies the fervency of her

wish never to let him go.
Ultimately, though, they both know how impossible

that desire really is. The boy,

fast growing beyond baby-

hood, occupies his own space

clutches the goldfinch with

possessive resolve, and his

mother gazes down at him

with a hint of the mournful-

ness which will overwhelm

her when Christ's lifeless body

Tragedy here is withheld by

is lowered from the cross.

AROUND THE GALLERIES

THE standing of Glyn Philpot (1884-1937) remains more enigmatic than that of any other major 20th-century British painter. This may have something to do with his private life: he was openly homosexual — or as openly as anyone was in those days. But more to the point, he underwent a spectacular change of style in mid-career: in 1930 he suddenly "went Picasso", as a newspaper of the day put it. Up to then he had been a fairly conservative, respect-able painter with considerable success. But in his late forties he threw it all aside, adopting instead a spare. comparatively modern style, influenced primarily by Rose period Picasso and lining him up with that brand of Parisian chic we would now call Deco. He was accused of cynicism and opportunism and lost many of his old admirers without living long enough to establish a solid new reputation. The show at the Fine Art Society is heavily weighted towards the last period, much of it coming from the collection of his niece, Gabrielle Cross. who died recently. It includes fine portraits, among them famous images of Vivian Forbes and of Jules Zaire, a black Paris barman. There are also some of his magical Symbolist fantasies, such as Saint Sebastian and Fugue, both of 1932, and some highly evocative North African scenes. There seems no doubt that his last period was far and away his finest. High time to forget the kerfuffle these paintings caused and accept them gratefully for just what they are.

Fine Art Society, 148 New Bond Street, WI (0171 629 5116). Mon-Fri 9_30am-5_30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until Jan 16

SINCE the circus contains so many glittering encounters between illusion and reality, glamour and squalor, pleasure and pain, it is hardly surprising that so many artists have been drawn to it. In 1937 Morris Kestelman was commissioned to prepare colour lithographic illustrations for a book on the circus in England. The advent of the war meant the book never appeared. and the lithographs are only now published. To celebrate the occasion, and Kestelman's 92nd birth day, the Boundary Gallery presents a seasonable show of Kestelman on the circus, contrasted with three other artists. American dacqueline Morreau). British (Gillian Kogan) and Georgian (Jacob Jugashvili). The variety of response is astonishing. Boundary Gallery, 98 Boundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 1126). Wed-Sat Ham-opm, reopens Jan 7, until Jan 17

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

MUSIC: Hettie Judah joins Pavarotti, Bono and pals as they touch down in Bosnia to open the War Child charity's music centre. Plus concert reviews

Pipe up for peace

Ociety ladies may prefer New York, but for that last pre-Christmas Day trip, musicians favour Mostar. This week Luciano Pavarotti was delivered on to Bosnian soil through the back end of a vast RAF Chinook, flanked by Mostar's black and formerly Serb-sodden hills, it was a suitably surreal piece of stage direction for the maestro's visit: despite all the publicity. money and music that he had put into the country through his "Pavarotti and Friends" concerts, this was his first ever sniff of Bosnian air. While he may have withheld

his physical presence, his inhis physical presence, inelopment of one of the boldest arts projects on the route to Bosnian regeneration. The construction of War Child's Pavaroni Music Centre in divided cinerary Mostar is an expression not simply of hope for the future of Bosnia's children, but of almost crazy faith in the future of the city.

Mostar is still strongly divided along Bosnian Muslim and Croat lines. Car bombs have gone off as recently as September, and day-to-day tensions still run high. Even Pavaretti's co-sponsor. U2 frontman Bono, admits that the centre will be a tempting target should the Croats restart their bomb attacks. Built hehind the facade of a shelled orphanage in Muslim East Mostar, the building is bright, modern and prominently positioned. It was hinted that Pavaroni's obviously Italian. and hence Catholic, name was



Pavarotti: high-speed trip

attached to the building to defer a Catholic Croat offensive. There are few who would invest in a major capital project in a time of such uncertain peace, and it is to War Child's and Pavarotti's great credit that they were brave enough to do so.

In a four-hour visit there is room for little more than symbolic gestures: this trip was potent with them. Having broken his oath that he would never fly in a helicopter (he later told me that it was something "I would not do for a million dollars, but I'd do it for these children"), Pavarotti hurtled through the city at uncharacteristic speed. He had an impressive entourage: Bono, Brian Eno, Bianca Jagger, Sir Tom Stoppard and a batch of Italian musical stars came to express solidarity. For one evening at least, their gesture of peace was recipro- fore we hear the melody.

west were seen together for the first time, and the visitors were greeted in the devastated Musala Square, which at the height of the conflict received an estimated 3,000 shells a day, by a choir of children from both sides of the city waiting peacefully in the rain.

When you are happy you sing in the shower," Pavarotti me. It is this absent joy that the project is trying to reintroduce into the lives of Bosnia's traumatised children. Conceived as a world-leading centre for experimental music therapy, it will build on the work of two British charities. War Child and the Serious Road Trip, during the conflict. The centre is already claiming impressive results: children who could not speak have found a voice. Beyond individual therapy, it is hoped that making music together will unite children.

It is still too early to bathe in idealism. The children's concert for Pavarotti was crawling with security men and plainclothed police, each side watching the other closely. Even the ridiculous brevity of the musicians' visit was dictated by a disagreement between the rival mayors who refused to let a British plane into the city's airport.

This war will produce music of real anger," Bono told me. "Any city has a right to make noise to exorcise what they've been through." It seems that Mostar has got to make some serious noise be-

Festive gifts

A BUSY weekend for Stephen Layton's vocal ensemble Polyphony saw them give Handel's Messiah on Saturday and half of Bach's Christmas Oratorio on Sunday, both at St John's, Smith Square. They were assisted in Sunday's programme by the early music group Canzona (director Theresa Caudle) which, as well as accompanying the first three parts of the Bach, filled out the programme with Corelli's Concerto Grosso Op 6 No 8 in G minor, the 'Christmas Concerto".

The core of Canzona is small but flexible — players are added for larger works such as the Bach - and a sense of that individual response came across in the Corelli. Just as the members of a string quartet would interact, so Canzona's instrumentalists breathed together in the Adagio sections and struck sparks

off each other in the Allegros. Taking over the direction for the Christmas Oratorio, Stephen Layton adopted similarjudicious tempi. The Sinfonia introducing Part 2. another pastoral movement, had a perfectly judged, lilting dotted rhythm, pushing gently forward all the time. The big choral movements, such as those opening Parts I and 3. had buoyancy as well as an appropriately celebratory air,

ed with imaginative variety. Catherine Bott made the most of the relatively minor

while the chorales were treat-

Polyphony/ Canzona/Layton St John's

soprano role, duetting stylish-ly with the bass, Michael George, in Lord, Thy Mercy. George himself has one of the noblest voices in the early music business, and even if there were worrying signs of it spreading unduly, he delivered his numbers with customary aplomb. Catherine Wyn-Rogers was a fine con-tralto soloist in Slumber Beloved while, in the tenor role, James Gilchrist was fresh of voice and animated of line.

MAHLER'S Eighth Symphony of a Thousand, is monumental. extravagant and bombastic, a work perfectly suited to the conducting style of James Levine. In the last of his three concerts with the Phil-

harmonia Orchestra the American maestro did not disappoint, but he also sprung some pleasant surprises in a taut performance free of cloying emotionalism. At the opening, Levine took the score's "impetuoso" marking to heart, and the music

surged along excitingly. Most impressive of all was the tight ensemble between the no fewer than five choruses, three

Philharmonia/ Levine Albert Hall

High, wide and handsome

children's choirs and orchestra. Banked up high above the platform, the well-drilled singers attacked every phrase as one, even when Levine was less than prodigious with his cues. Both visually and aurally this was an Albert Hall spectacular, with the stage bursting at the seams and the magnificent tuttis underpinned by the unmistakable sound of the organ.

There were a few moments.

Felicitous and animated

IF FIORDILIGI and Dorabella had been Lieder sing ers... well, they would have been snapped up by the Songmakers' Almanac which, in its 21st birthday year, turned back the pages for a repeat performance of that gloriously speculative evening of witty homage to Mozart and to the female voice.

Graham Johnson has suggested that this, one of his most virtuoso feats of programming, bears a similar relationship to Cosi fan tutte as Tom Stoppard's Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead does to Hamlet. That gives you some idea. But it gives only a hint of the web of verbal and musical crossreference, the tenderness and outrageousness with

Lott/Murray Wigmore Hall

which Johnson matches Mozart and his librettist da Ponte in a musical pattern of human joy, pain, expectation. deceit and conceit. Three of the founder mem-

bers of the Songmakers' Almanac were on hand for the occasion, and the presence of Felicity Lott, Ann Murray and Richard Jackson made this revival seem even more authentic than the original "staging" in July 1983 which did not, as it happens, feature these singers at all. Lott and Murray are such an inexhaustibly accomplished double-act that it was difficult to

believe that there could ever be such devoted sisters in art, be they pouting at each other during some exquisite Schubertian singing exercises. or cooing through sisterly duets by Wolf, Brahms, Men-

delssohn and Schumann. Their own vocal virtuosity was answered by Johnson's and Jackson's respective skills in literary detection, selection and recitation. From Austen and Kipling to Dorothy Parker, Samuel Johnson and D.H. Lawrence they ranged. And Jackson's declamation of Don Alfonso's laconic lines from Cosi found their match in the most deft and daring musical connections in the fingers of Johnson.

HILARY FINCH

especially in the first move-ment where Levine seemed to be marking time. At such points it was tempting to question Mahler's grandiose vision in combining the two mystical texts — the first a medieval prayer, the second the closing scene from Goethe's Faust - but strong vocal performances soon drew the

From the formidable line-up of singers, all regular Levine collaborators, two stood out all evening: the imposing, golden-toned mezzo of Michelle DeYoung and the incisive tenor of Johan Botha. Jane Eaglen's top notes were not always spot-on and her voice may have lost its shine, but Deborah Voigt compensated with her radiant soprano.

Stepping in at short notice, Jan-Hendrik Rootering made his mark as Pater Profundis in the second movement Heidi Grant Murphy sang the Mater Gloriosa's brief lines with purity, and Birgitta Svenden and Eike Wilm Schulte maintained the level of this high-

class octet. The orchestral playing was especially warm in the second movement. Levine emphasised the chamber music-like qualities of the writing in its successive episodes, always making them as cohesive and unsentimental as possible. Best of all was the hushed tone with which the massive chorus began the closing hymn, and the masterfully controlled build-up to the

work's earth-shattering end. JOHN ALLISON

Check out those employee records

BY RODNEY HOBSON

EMPLOYEE records should be spring cleaned when firms reopen after the Christmas break because of impending changes in the law, the Institute of Personnel and Development says.

Development says.

The publication of the Data Protection Bill is scheduled to take place in January. It will extend the right of employees to have access to written as well as computerised records.

Angela Edward, the institute's policy adviser, says: "Employees will have the right to know what information employers keep on them, how it is used and its relevance to their pay, promotion and prospects."

She says there could be serious financial implications for employers found keeping inaccurate information and advises companies to check that all data is accurate, relevant and valid. The main danger is with information gathered informally, which is more likely to be inaccurate, as it is rarely checked and verified in the same way as formal records.

Arguing that properly processed data is good for husinesss as well as for the employer, she says. "Employers who use out-of-date or inaccurate information to make decisions about training, promotion or career development risk making expensive mistakes. Employers should not keep anything that they may not be able to verify or justify. If you don't want your employee to see it, then you shouldn't keep it."

However, she cautions employers against allowing people to see data that identifies a third party.



"Don't talk to me about having to work Christmas Day!"

BUSINESS

OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas starts early for small businesses

how festive firms
spread the work

through the year

Tor a small enterprise, Christmas starts early. Chantal Tunnacliffe is already planning and selling her card designs for the 1998 season. About 95 per cent of her business is Christmas-focused and half the annual turnover is generated from September to December. This year's Christmas trade finished for her on December 15. Next month she will be planning marketing for the next festive season and discussing new lines with her commercial

Five years ago Mrs Tunnacliffe heard about Emmaus, an international charity for homeless people, and wanted to help to raise money for her local branch in Cambridge. She offered some artwork which proved highly popular as Christmas cards, and that modest beginning turned her from a self-taught amateur artist into a professional painter and businesswoman.

"The success of the cards for Emmaus made me think that there could be a wider market for my designs." says Mrs Tunnacliffe. "So I did a very optimistic intitial print run of 5,000 of each of six designs."

Her optimism was justified and the designs — themed around Russian churches — attracted a lot of interest at the Birmingham Spring Gift Fair. There she made her first contacts with other charities and shops, and now supplies cards to several charities including SOS Children's Villages, the National Eczema Society, the Dyslexia Association and the Pasteur Institute in Paris. She has over a hundred designs in production which are sold to wholesale customers in France, Switzerland, Russia and Canada.

Mrs Tunnacliffe handles all the print-buying herself so she can oversee the process. "It's time-consuming, but it means that I get better financial return than simply selling on the designs." That first tentative print run has been well eclipsed. Save the Children Fund ordered 150,000 cards of one design



Angela Hawkins and Dinah Saville with some of the handmade crackers that can be recycled every year

this year, while Emmaus, her first customer, has sold more than 20,000 Tunnacliffe cards this season. Charity cards sell for about 8p each, but Mrs Tunnacliffe's creations can run to more than El each. Turnover in 1997 reached sen on

National gift fairs are Mrs Tunnacliffe's main market, which means that from early spring she is preparing the Christmas orders. She also takes a stand at the Country Living Christmas fair in November.

"This year's fair was the first where I did more than break even, because I was selling artwork and prints as well as cards" she says. "Cards are so inexpensive that it's impossible to make money selling direct to the public but it's very valuable to talk to customers. I learn which designs are popular and why."

This market research has made Mrs Tunnacliffe change the colour schemes of her cards from cool blues and greens to warmer tones. Her current bestselling cards fea-

SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT ENDS UNCERTAINTY

Disloyalty can have catastrophic results. We provide discreet advice and a comprehensive

ture camels on the Flight into Egypt. "People like to be reminded of the summer, and heat and foreign holidays," she explains.

hristmas for Angela Hawkins and Dinah Saville
starts on January 9 — when
they plan their schedule of gift fairs
and work out how much stock will
be needed. Their business, selling
reusable crackers, can justifiably
claim to be as green as a bunch of
holly. "Crackers are an expensive
item that are bought by every
household in the country — and
then thrown away," explains Mrs
Hawkins. "We produce handmade
crackers in beautiful materials that
can easily be reassembled and
recycled each year."

The Cracker Maker started three years ago, selling at local charity fairs, but the partners soon decided that London was their main market. Now they sell at national craft fairs and do mail-order sales generated through the considerable publicity they have attracted through magazine editorials. The

partners are looking at extending the selling season with dried flower arrangements and customised crackers for golden weddings and special occasions, but Christmas trading dominates half of the year.

"There's a constant battle to keep up with demand at this time of year," says Angela Hawkins. "Apart from employing students in the summer to build up cracker stocks, it's just the two of us working all hours — which, of course, doesn't come into our pricing structure."

Mrs Hawkins reckons she will be sending out orders "right up

until Christmas Eve".

Meanwhile Chantal Tunnacliffe avoided this final week's frenetic countdown to Christmas. Last orders completed, she escaped abroad to paint and get inspiration for the cards we will be sending in 1998.

Chantal Tunnacliffe: phone 01223 247427 The Cracker Maker: phone 01386

CHETTELL CLUD SIAT NUCLEAR

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

Owner managers in UK optimistic about prospects

By ROONEY HORSON

OWNER MANAGERS across the European Union have become more optimistic about business prospects for 1998, after two years of declining expectations.

British owner managers lead the way in the optimism stakes while Germany trails badly, according to the sixth annual survey by Grant Thorton, the accountant and business adviser.

Andrew Godfrey, head of growth and development services, said: "The survey shows the expectations of UK firms to be well above the EU average on turnover, employment and, particularly, profitability, which is a good indicator of future performance."

Nearly half of British companies expect to expand their workforce in the next 12 months and three quarters expect turnover to rise.

German firms are not as pessi-

quarters expect turnover to rise.

German firms are not as pessimistic as in previous years but they remain the least optimistic, with many continuing to predict a fall in profitability and employment.

French businesses, which had gloomy expectations for 1997, are looking forward to a brighter year.

On the whole, the optimism is not based on hopes of rising prices. In France and Germany companies believe they will have to cut

selling prices.

Mr Godfrey says: "We are wimessing some very positive trends among the UK small to medium enterprises, with increased investment in training, employment and property. On the downside, there is still a gap between the UK and Europe on selling prices, which could lead to

selling prices, which could lead to competitive problems.
"The picture on exports is slightly different. This is one area where the survey does not show greater optimism. Across the EU as a whole, export expectations for 1998 are exactly the same as for 1997 and have not recovered to 1995 levels. In some countries, including the UK, export expectations have continued to slide."

WELL Translate London of the

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Santa is proving increasingly popular with the business world, the Institute of Trade Mark Agents says. The word Santa has been registered as a trade mark by seven different companies to cover items including toiletries, greetings cards, ornaments, toys for animals and plum puddings. Young Santa, Son of Santa, Santa's Son, Santa Babes, Santa's Big Day, Santa Claws and Santa Claus are already registered as trade marks. Santa and Ruby,

☐ Banks and financial service companies have the most festive spirit, the Institute of Personnel and Development says. Seven out of ten companies in the sector held Christmas parties, while fewer than one in ten in the construction industry have a get-together at work. In general, the institute says, the smaller the company, the less likely it is to hold an office

Santa's Footprints and Santa's

Best are all pending registration.

☐ The annual conference of the Federation of Small Businesses in March will be addressed by

William Hague, the Leader of the Opposition. Barbara Roche, the Small Firms Minister, and Padraig F. Flynn, the European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs.

☐ A free guide for owner managers thinking of selling their businesses has been produced by Deloitte & Touche, the chartered accountant. Copies can be obtained from Rachel Gristock on 0171-303 5040.

☐ The Human Resource Development Week Exhibition is moving to Olympia. The 1998 event, the twelfth, will open on March 31. The Institute of Personnel and Development organises the three-day event.

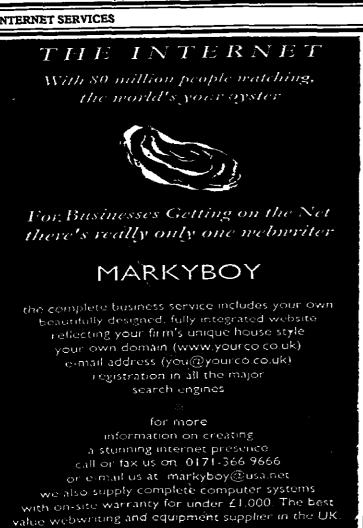
☐ Venture Capital Report has produced its 1998 Guide to Private Equity and Venture Capital in the UK and Europe. Published by Pitman Publishing, the report costs \$195.

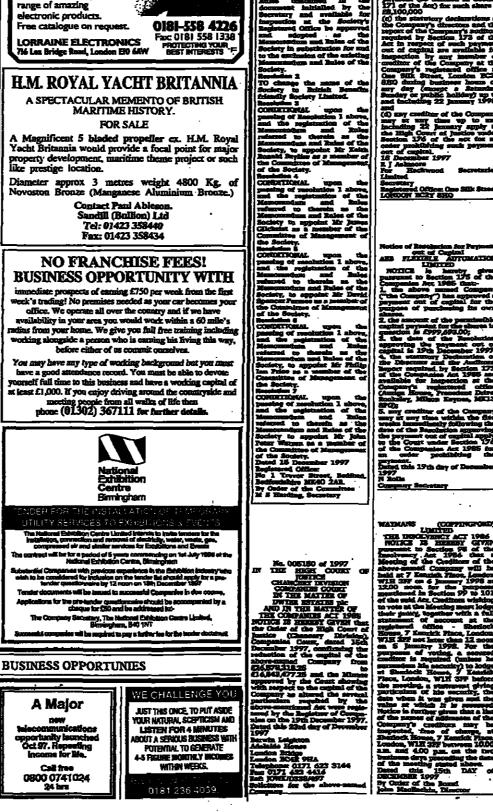
Lending by Barclays Bank through the Small Firms Training Loans Scheme has topped £1

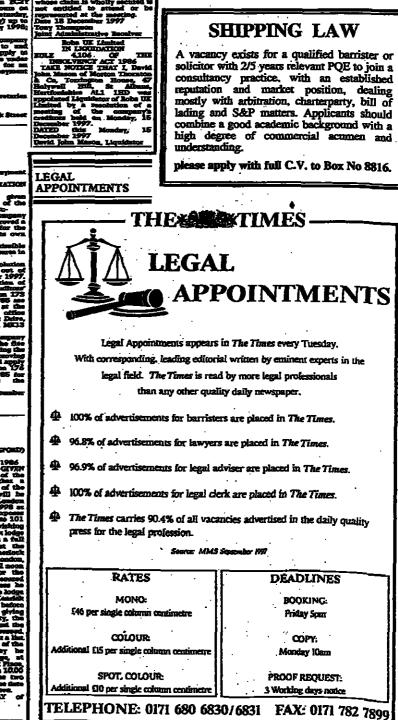
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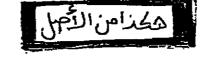
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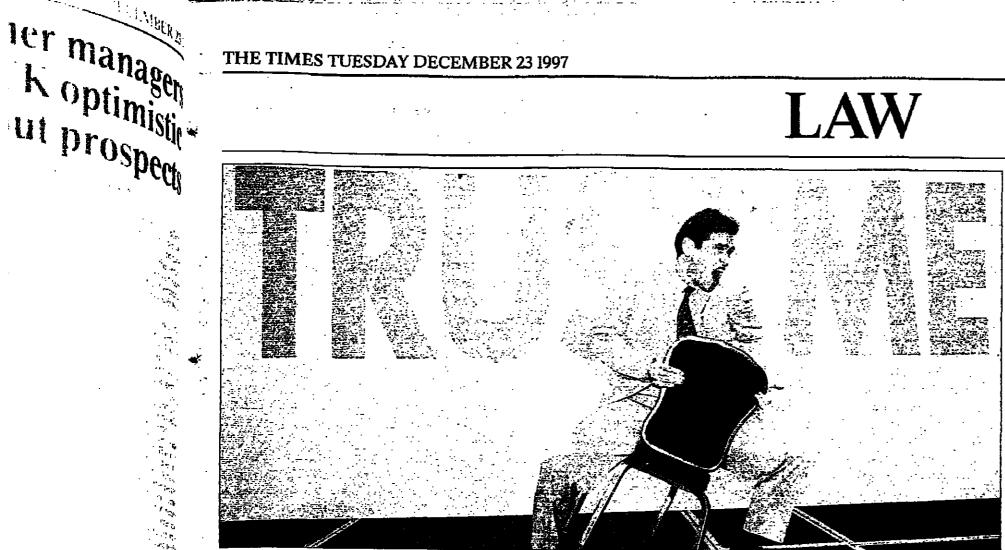




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LAW

NEXT WEEK: DAVID PANNICK REVIEWS THE YEAR



Why are lawyers so disliked? Jim Carrey in the Hollywood comedy Liar, Liar, plays up to the popular image as the lawyer/liar of the title

Everyone loathes a lawyer

apocalyptic speech to the Law Society conference in October, Lord Irvine of Lairg noted that the legal profession had fallen lower and lower in public estimation in recent years. One of his aims as Lord Chancellor was to see lawyers being held in the same affection as nurses. His "new regime" - of replacing legal aid with conditional fees in all civil money claims — "should go a long way to heighten the

3-88-128

public standing of lawyers". Loathing and suspicion of lawyers has a long pedigree. In 321 BC, Plato wrote that a lawyer's "soul is small and unrighteous . . . from the first he has practised deception and retaliation and become stunted and warped". Such sentiments would fit nicely into a Daily Mail leader.

Other notables who have put the boot into lawyers include (in no particular order) Shakespeare, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Johnson, Samuel Butler, Jonathan Swift, Thomas Jefferson, John Keats, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Öscar Wilde and Dan Ouavle.

For all his fine words, Lord Irvine and his officials are not above tapping into popular dislike of lawyers when it suits them. When Downing Street officials leaked the contents of Lord Irvine's speech, presumably to ensure a favourable reception, the proposals were presented as a much-needed brake on runaway lawyers. While the broadsheets were more sceptical (pointing out that the cuts might also clobber the poor), the tabloids found the chance to engage in lawyer-bashing too good to

Making the legal profession more popular could prove daunting for Labour, says Fiona Bawdon

miss. The Sun's headline ran: "Curb on lawyers' legal aid rip-off". The Express wrote of plans to "halt the legal aid gravy train for lawyers" and the Daily Mail leader concluded: "Inevitably, the legal profession is already squealing at Lord Irvine's initiative. For that reason alone, he deserves to succeed."

These papers knew their coverage would strike a chord with their readers, but just why are lawyers so unpopular? Marcel Berlins, a writer and broadcaster.

says it is partly because of the circumstances in which most people go to see them. "On the whole, they are there when you are in trouble of some kind. They are seen as parasites feeding off other people's disasters." He adds that much of

the opprobrium is self-inflict - will create a climate more ed. "People tend to come out of akin to that in America. studying the law more pomp ous than when they went in." he says. "I have seen friends of mine go in quite normal people and come out making Latin quips and terrible laboured jokes. They develop a bedside manner of superiority

and arrogance." · A bedside manner that can continue even when they are off duty. A friend's family holiday was blighted by the constant braying of a barris-ter, holding forth over dinner that he did not want to be made a judge just yet because he could not live on less than the £250,000 he was earning. "He stopped talking to me

when he found out I was only a graphic designer," he recalls. Roger Smith, director of the Legal Action Group, however, insists that dislike of lawyers here is as nothing compared with the United States. "I don't think there is a visceral hatred of lawyers in this country." he says. The attitude of the Brit-

ish is more ambivalent. "Law-

able to

them as

yers are seen as boring but basically trustworthy. If the Government is in a hole, it People feel will appoint a lawyer to sort it out," he says, citing the Scott and Nolan demonise reports.

Mr Smith fears that the extension of conditional fees, they wish far from improving their standing - as Lord Irvine claims

> Mr Smith explains: "Law yers will be seen as being paid above what is reasonable. What starts off as an attack on lawyers will end up as an attack on the integrity of the justice system."

Greater use of conditional fees is predicted to lead to more advertising by lawyers — and, in America, there is evidence that the more lawyers advertise, the more they are distrusted. A study in lowa found that after lawyers began advertising on TV, the proportion of people who thought they were honourable fell from 65 per cent to 14 per cent. Yet leaving aside the impact

of advertising, many of the criticisms now levied at lawyers could apply equally to other professions, which with the exception of estate agents and journalists - are not generally disliked. In a 1995 Law Society study

of people's attitudes towards different professions, doctors came top across all categories. Yet doctors can be just as arrogant (ask any nurse) and use just as much jargon (ask any patient).

They are also open to accu-sations of treating clients/patients as little more than money-making opportu-nities. The headline of one article in the medical magazine Financial Pulse earlier this year was: "Travel vaccines broaden your earnings. Dr Mike Townsend explains how GPs can take advantage of patients' trips to exotic destinations." The same issue also eave advice on how to boos vaccination levels and so trigger payments for meeting targets. ('As a last resort, it

might even be worth giving the immunisation at home if it means hitting the target" surely this is ambulance-chasing by another name? "This practice could generate up to £3,700 from an effective annual influenza vaccination camnaign." Imagine the field day the tabloids would have if lawyers were writing in such

One legal aid lawyer smarts at being deemed a "fat cat". while his brother, a GP. earning broadly the same, is a latter-day saint. Doctors, he says, are just as capable of being unscrupulous as lawyers are popularly believed to be. A doctors' practice near his brother's — which was also the only local dispensary whipped up a campaign among local people to stop a rival pharmacy opening in the area — to no obvious benefit to anyone but the doctors and

Mr Smith has a theory about why the questionable activities of doctors are generally ignored, while those of lawyers are exaggerated. "Unless you're a serial bigamist or a major criminal, the chances are that you may never see a lawyer. People feel able to demonise them, to play with their image - but they don't dare with doctors because they know they'll need them at some point," he says.

their wallets.

So, as Labour is being criticised for reneging on some election pledges, it also seems likely to fail in its attempts to make lawyers loveable.

Right way to deter civil wrongdoers

ANDREW

BURROWS

is usually to compensate the victim's loss. But this is not always so. Sometimes damages are awarded to punish the wrongdoer. These are known as "punitive" (or "exemplary") damages. Last week the Law Commission, the Government's law reform body, published a report and draft Bill for the reform of the law on punitive damages. The law in this area badly needs to be rationalised and modernised. As one senior judge has put it, the present law "cries aloud for parliamentary intervention". Almost everyone who responded to our consultation paper agreed.

There are arbitrary and illogical restrictions on when punitive damages may be awarded. The leading case of Rookes v Barnard in 1964 stated that unless expressly authorised by statute, punitive damages can be

awarded in only two categories of case. One is where there has been oppressive, arbitrary or unconstitu-tional wrongdoing by a servant of the Government; and the other is where the wrongdoer has committed the wrong cynically calcu-lating that it would be profitable to do so.

In 1993, the Court of Appeal in the Camelford water case added a further peculiar requirement: even if a case falls within the above two categories, punitive damages can be awarded only if they had been awarded for that particular wrong before 1964 that is, before Rookes v

wrongs developed since 1964 (such as sex or race discrimination) cannot trigger an award of punitive damages; and wrongs recognised before 1964 cannot either, if one cannot trace a case (perhaps because of the accidents of law reporting) in which punitive damages were awarded for that wrong before 1964. Nor can the two categories be rationally defended. Why should a private store detective who maliciously falsely "arrests" an alleged shoplister be immune from punitive damages, when a police officer, who does ex-actly the same, is not? Why should it make all the difference, as regards the availability of punitive damages, whether or not a person who physiocally attacks another was paid to

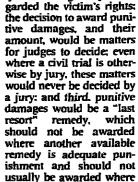
Barnard was decided). This means that

do so, or whether an author libels a person for profit rather than simply out of malice? But though it is widely accepted that reform is needed, responses to our consultation paper revealed very different views as to the path reform should take. One view is that rationalisation demands the abolition of punitive damages, leaving punishment as the sole preserve of the criminal law.

commission ultimately found persuasive is to preserve punitive damages while putting them on a clear, principled and tightly controlled, basis. Consultees impressed on us that to remove punitive damages would be to take away, for no good reason, a weapon in the judicial armoury that can be useful in fighting a wide range of outrageous wrongful conduct, including fraud, abuse of police power, infringement of health and safety standards, environmental pollution, and sex and race discrimination.

The Law Commission report therefore recommends to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, a detailed statutory scheme to put punitive damages on a clear, principled and tightly controlled footing, in which judges would make the awards, not juries as now. The three central elements of that scheme

follow: that punitive damages would be available for a civil wrong (other than breach of contract) if the wrongdoer has deliberately and outrageously disregarded the victim's rights:



the wrongdoer has been convicted of a criminal offence for the same conduct. We also recommend the replacement of some outdated technical rules. For example, we suggest a diametrically opposite approach to the present law on the survival of claims to punitive damages, so that the claim would survive in favour of a deceased victim's estate, but would not survive against a deceased wrongdoer's estate.

The commission believes that these reforms, if implemented by Parliament, would enable the civil justice system to play a proper role, alongside the criminal law, in punishing and deterring serious wrongdoing. At the same time, they would ensure that there is no risk of English law treading the American path of easily available, and exorbitant, punitive awards.

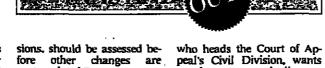
 Professor Burrows is a Law Commissioner. Aggravated, Exemplary and Restitutionary Damages, Law Commission Report No 347, is published the Stationery Office (£18.50). The text of the report is available on the Internet at the commis-

http://www.gtnet.gov.uk/law.comm/homepage.htm

From bad to worse

AS IF the Government was not getting enough flak over benefits reform, the Council on Tribunals - chaired by Lord Archer of Sandwell, Solicitor-General in the last Labour Government - has at-. tacked plans to shake up the benefits appeals system. In its annual report, the

council says that the new Social Security Bill, which will mean that benefits appeals will be heard by a single person and not a tribunal of three chaired by a lawyer. could mean a reversion to the old "unsatisfactory" system. The new appeals body will be made up of a panel of experts. "As a result," the council says, "some appeals may in future be decided by tribunals constituted as only one person, not necessarily with legal training." The coun-cil is strongly critical of the plans, which remove from ap-pellants the right to a hearing elore a tribunal of three chaired by a lawyer, all of Whom "bring a wealth of expertise and experience... The effect of the other reforms in the Bill, aimed at removing errors and delays in benefits deci-



contemplated."

Out of court PEOPLE with disputes before the Court of Appeal are being

people to try to settle disputes by mediation rather than in a Court of Appeal hearing. In his Review of the Legal Year, 1996-97 for the Court of Appeal's Civil Division, Lord Woolf says: "I am optimistic encouraged to resolve them outside court under a pilot scheme launched by the Masthat alternative dispute resoluter of the Rolls. Lord Woolf, tion has a role to play in help-



Freedom for Corinne

CORINNE LAMBEY, 19, bas just been acquitted of murder and released from Death Row in Belize, after the efforts of Freedom Now. She is the third young prisoner released this year after help by the group, which has campaigned for ten years to help Britons facing miscarriages of justice abroad particularly those on Death

Kent solicitor, with help from Edward Fitzgerald, QC. The work is all pro bono publico. Now the group is seeking charitable status.

ing parties and the court to find ways of resolving cases without a hearing before the Court of Appeal."

Such out-of-court dispute resolution could provide a cheaper, quicker and more satisfactory solution for the parties than a court hearing".

Two views

THE publication by the Law Society last week of its blueprint for a self-financing legal aid fund based on the "no win, no fee" principle has high-lighted differences in the approaches of the profession's two branches towards the Government's reform plans.

The Bar Council is continuing to press for a contingency legal aid fund which, it says, would render unnecessary proposals to replace legal aid with conditional fees for most money claims.
The Law Society has made a

conscious effort to be more accommodating. It has calculated that it is simply unrealistic to expect the Government to back down completely and is trying to persuade the Government that the Legal Aid Board — not lawyers should stump up the conditional-fees insurance premiums for people who cannot afford them.

SCRIVENOR:

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Islington

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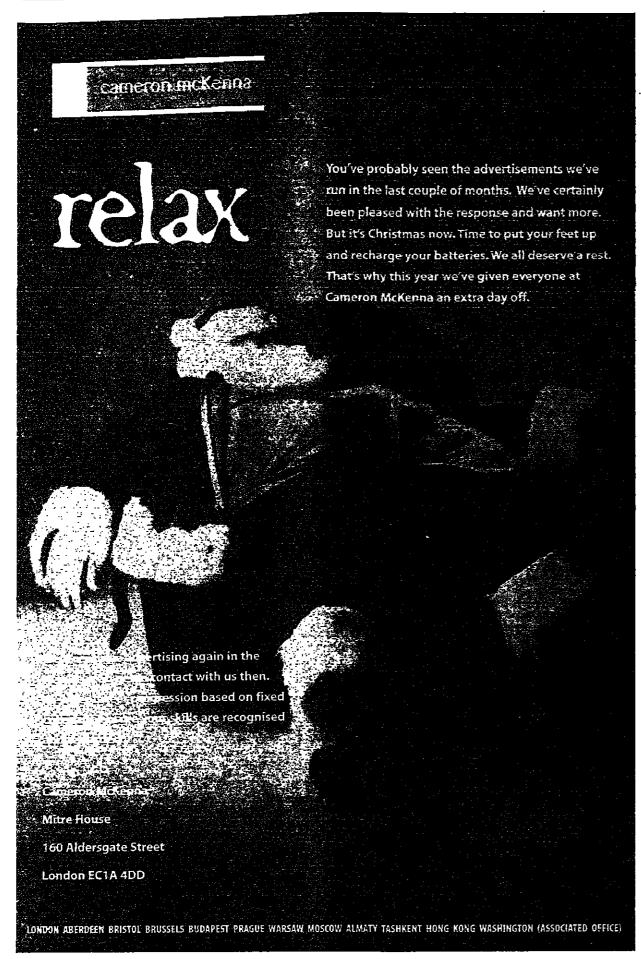




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Christmas is a natural 'pause' to contemplate the direction your career will take in the New Year. Is partnership really what you aspire to? Are there more interesting and fulfilling roles in-house? Should you look at the options available to you? More often than not candidates are surprised by the variety of opportunities which exist in banking/finance. If you would welcome the chance to talk to us on a fact finding basis we will be delighted to give you constructive career advice.

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PROJECT FINANCE To £85,000 so dolar, mai responsibility, the biggest deals, lots of travel, a casual office constituent and career prospects - yes, a law firm like this does come, and the London office of this top 5 US firm can make it come true for project france lawyers with 2-4 years' pice. Ref. T24056

from an elements of property work are your thing you could not do better tran this top 10 firm, which has built its successful practice on the back of property. This could be the move that sends your career on a steep upwards

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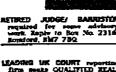
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- good drafting skills; • the capacity to produce high quality work auickty:
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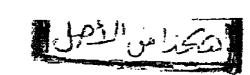
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THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

Chris McGrath meets a jockey sticking to his Hennessy winner for Kempton glory

هكذامن الإمل

Bradley rides high on ageless talent

he big grey horse gal-loped towards the fence, hesitated and changed his mind. Needing an extra stride, he suddenly soared towards the top of the fence. Somehow, he cleared it, on landing, however, he crumpled steeply. Across the nation. betting slips bearing the favourite's name were likewise crumpled and flung bitterly to

The long arm of the laws of gravity had Graham Bradley by the neck, forcing him inexorably towards the churned, sticky turf. He nitched over the horse's shoulder, braced for the pain. Then, because he is a jockey of whom some have long used the word "genius" without the slightest discomfort, he stuck out a hand to where the reins were slung over the horse's right

At the same time, his mount straightened up with a jolt. Bradley found the reins back in his grip, his boots in the frons, the horse still in the vanguard of the Hennessy Gold Cup field as they approached the fifth fence. In the betting shops, disbelieving ounters began rifling anxiousy through the bins.

Suny Bay went on to win the autumn's biggest steeplechase by 13 lengths. That adhesive partnership is resumed at Kempton on Boxing Day, in the Pertemps King George VI Chase. At 37, there is a valedictory edge to every big victory Bradley can conjure but his singular and accomplished talent is already preserved in many memories. moments such as the fourth fence at Newbury.

That split-second condensed much that has become familiar during the past 15 years: the man's propensity for finding himself in a spot, and his intuitive flair for getting out of one. In his time, Bradley has given the mendacious and ignorant the opportunity to picture him as incorrigible,

In his younger days, he had problems with the stewards. Happily, the serene figure he has cut so conspicuously this season has never met any slander halfway. He is thoughtful, affectionate and true, unterly lacking in arro-

It was difficult to say the same last season of Andrew Cohen, Suny Bay's owner, after he decided that the stable colours. Replaced by Jamie Osborne in the Grand National, Bradley considered re- hard on me. But I've never



Bradley relaxes in the comfort of his Sparsholt home before riding Suny Bay in the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day

tirement. It is as well for Cohen, principal patron to the Charlie Brooks yard at Lambourn, that he perse-vered. At least Cohen had the grace to restore Bradley when Osborne was injured in November, but the horse should not have been alone in falling to his knees at the fourth fence in the Hennessy.

Jockeys get used to such treatment and Bradley tends not to dignify it by fretting. "I've had a lot of jobs in my career," the Yorkshireman said. "I still ride for every trainer that's ever employed me. I've always believed in thing desperately untoward and the Press has been fairly worried about it. I'm a very honest person in life." Nonetheless, he allowed himself to become disheartened last winter. "I love everyone at Uplands, after six years. But

it just didn't feel the same going in, havthe stable star. Now I'm back with a spring in my step. The revival has been shared by Suny

Bay, a slow old plodder" two years the first time at home this year - where usually you have to push him along - he was pulling all the way. At Haydock on his reappear-

ance] he was incredible, over three miles on good ground. In fact, he was too free, too fresh. He kept galloping into the bottom of fences and springing his knee, and got close to

'I've always believed in myself. I've never done anything untoward. I'm a very honest person'

ago. "But when I rode him for several." The fourth at ed. As for three miles, Kemp-Newbury then became a defin- ton is where he might just get ing moment - both for Suny

Bay's coming of age, and his That Bradley is performing

Nc6 Od6 Ne7 Kf8 a5 Qd7 Ob5 Rc6 Qc4 Oc1

White: Mikhail Krasenkow

FIDE World Championship

Groningen, December 1997

Black: Nigel Short

Bogo-Indian Defence

with rare brio was again apparent a fortnight later when he and another grey, Senor El Betrutti, jumped their rivals silly in the

Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham. Not even Bradley, however, can ride two horses at once, and he has stayed with Suny Bay to tackle the grey eminence himself, One Man. "The Senor hates sticky ground and feels bet-

ter going left-hand-Bradley reasoned: "One same. He never got the trip in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham, but was able to win three King Georges. Yes, One Man will take a hell of a lot of beating. But whether he has ever beaten anything as good as Suny Bay, I don't know. My only worry is that some of Charlie's horses have not been right, though Suny Bay is out in a field. I do think him potentially a Gold Cup win-

light - Wayward Lad was the

It is 14 years since Bradley won the Gold Cup on Bregawn, but do not be deceived by the grey in his hair. It is no more a token of weariness than in the coats of Man's obviously a very good those exuberant jumpers v join issue on Boxing Day. those exuberant jumpers who

Dwyer forced into retirement after year on sidelines

MARK DWYER, the dual Gold Cup-winning jockey, has announced his retirement from the saddle after spending a year on the sidelines.

The 34-year-old Irishman, who rode more than 800 winners, suffered a com-pound fracture of his left elbow in a fall from In Good Faith at Kelso last December and, despite two operations and numerous hours of phys-iotherapy since, his arm is still not right. Dwyer met Dr Michael

Turner, the Jockey Club's chief medical advisor, yesterday and said afterwards: That is it, I have packed up. Basically, I am fit enough to ride but not fit enough to fall - that is the top and bottom of it. And you cannot carry on

Dwyer, who has a thriving livery yard near Maiton, North Yorkshire, quashed suggestions that he would

switch to training. "It is not a consideration at the momen though one day I might think about taking out a permit to train a few of my own."

Dwyer, who rode his first winner, Colneagh Emperior, at Limerick in 1979, went on to become a leading apprentice on the Flat in Ireland before increasing weight forced him to switch to jumping. He joined Jimmy Fitzgerald at Malton in the autumn of 1982.

In 1985, Dwyer won the Forgive'N Forget for Fitzger-ald, and in 1993 he followed up on the Peter Beaumonttrained Jodami, on whom he also won the Hennessy Co-gnac Gold Cup at Leopardstown three times.

Dwyer's long list of big-race Champion Hurdle on Flakey Dove in 1994, and two Scottish Nationals on Androma in 1984 and 1985.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Ludlow

Going: good

12-40 (zm hole) 1. STAGE PASS /R Farrent,
12-11, 2. Hisar (G Bradley, 7-2-, 3 Middes /A
P MicCoy, 6-4 tay ALSO (ANA) 3 Lamharan,
14 Mellors, 20 Among Islands (4th),
Designe Lines (6th), 25 Royal Artic (5th),
33 Betr Hug. 100 Pick-N-Clusse 10 ran, 41,
81, 61, 81, 91 G Barrent at Stoke-on-Trent
10ter 210 79; E1 70 62 40, £120 DF
515.70 Tino 520 30 CSF £47.75

295.54 Incest 1571.51.
1.40 (2m ch) 1. (GALE TOI (A P McCoy, 3-1).
2. Stompin IJ Cultory, 3-1). 3. Charming Grit (J. A McCarthy, evens fay). ALSO RAN 1: Dence King, 25 Cape Harry (4th). 100.
Aldington Crappie (5th). 6 ran. NRT. Avanti. Express, Just For A Reason 1*4, 3-1, 30, 31.
P. Muthas. In Ireland. Tote: 94.80; 52.20, 12.60. DF 95.60 CSF 511.64.

22.60. DF 62.60 CSF C11.64.
2.10 (2m.61 10.yd.hdie) 1. OH DONNA (M.A. Fitzgerald, 2-1. tav); 2. Hot 'N Saucy (S. McNeit, 10-1); 3. Super Saffron (C. Lewellyn, 20-7). ALSO RAN' 4 Humanne Jane (eth), Vicar's Vase (Sth), 8 Dolce Notte (h. 12 Ruby Rosa, 14 Mconlighter, 2d Audley Less, Callandos, 25 Velles Vate (6th), 33 Folesotava, Indian Legand (fl. 50 Nirvan Princess, Pernyahe, Sandante 15 ran. 31, 3, 7, 2, 3. N. Handarson at Lamboum Tote 23.30; C1.50, C2.60, E5.00 DF C26.50 Tro E324.30 CSF: 122.239.

534 30 CSF: 122.39.
240 (2m ch) 1, FORTUNES COURSE (W Marston, 6-1); 2, Malwood Castle (A Thom-ton, 9-4 fav.), 3, Dromhens (R Dunwood), 13-29 ALSO RAN, 11-4 Telechony I), 8 fts Unbelevable, 10 Stop The Waler, 12 Spanish Lipit, 20 Cown Equany 8 ran. Sh hd, dist. J King at Swincion Tote, 57,00; 52.20, E1.10, 52.30, DF: 19 10 CSF £19.52 Tileast, 134.18.

Tricast £84.18.
2.10 (2m 4t ch) 1, MR STRONG GALE (R Dumenody, 7-4 tav); 2 Trail Boss Li Cultory, 10-1); 3, Jason's Boy (R Johnson, 7-1) ALSO RAIN 100-30 Manuslane (4h), 11 Inch Emperor, 6 Frontager, 16 Flaming Miracle, 7 ran 3.8., 3, 21; P Nicholis at Shepton Mailet Tote: 12-50; C1-40, C3-20 OF. C14.80, CSF C17.77
2.40 (Che parties) BOAD BACER LIA.

Yonder Star Biran NR: Importing Danger 91, 41, 111, 41, 177, P.Webber at Banbury Tore 53, 40, 51, 20, 51, 30, 51, 30, 0F, 57, 10, Tiro 55, 80, CSF, 512, 63, Jackpot. £38,622.00 (0.3 winning ticket: Pool of £38,078.11 carried forward ! Kempton Park on Friday).

Lingfield Park

Going: standard 12:30 (5) 1. Friendly Brave (R Hughes, 2-1 fev), 2, Goodbye Galemen (7-1), 3, Powland-sons Stud (13:1) 8 ran Sh Ind. 2: Miss 6 Releveuy Tote 12:20, E1 10, £180, 08:00 DF £4:50 CSF £16 37 Tneast £118.22

Kelso off again

KELSO'S pre-Christmas meeting fell victim to the weather for the fourth year in succession when the track was hit by thick fog yesterday. Jonnie Fenwicke-Clennell, the clerk of the course, said: "It's here. We tried our best to get nothing we could do."

oxil

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

In the second OKBridge online challenge match Goldman and Soloway took on the Pavliceks, father Richard and son Rich, US representative in recent World Junior Championships. OKBridge (www.okbridge.com) was devised in 1990 by Matt Clegg of San Diego, and, after four years of increasing popularity through word of mouth, launched commercially in 1994. At last count there were on average 75 virtual tables in play at any time of the day or night.

Dealer East Love all · IMPs 2A74 **₹5432** ♦QJ10972 +Q10983 ¥J ¥98 ♦ÀK864 ♦53 **+AQ984 ⊕**J10652 **±**K652 ₩AKQ1076

2 NT Pass Contract: Six Hearts by South, Lead: king of diamonds.

Two No-Trumps was the Unusual No-Trump, showing at least 5.5 in the two lowest unbid uits, in this case the minors. On the face of it, North's Six Heart bid looks optimistic in a vaid, where are the tricks knocked out the ace of diamond lead leaves Small a gainst a slam. Now declarer ruffed, drew trumps and knocked out the ace of diamonds. I wonder if North and the state of struggie in vain.

Try a club lead: the best he can do is discard a spade from duranty, to make six hearts in in dummy, and the king of section on Saturday.

clubs - leaving him one trick short In practice West was unable to resist leading a top dia-

mond, as one generally does holding an ace-king on lead ing when he tried Six Hearts.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in hand, two top spades, two ruffs Sport and in the Weekend

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AMPELOPSIS a. Long-sightedness Late delivery c. A psuedo vine FARTLEK a. A Nordic goblin b. A Munich beer festival c. Training for running

GODBUSH a. A beard b. A television evangelist c. A kind of mistletoe BIDON a. French toilet equipment b. Having two teeth c. A container Answers on page 38

LEENE on CHESS

Re1 Bc2

Bb3

43 Oxc1 44 Ba4

By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Britons through Nigel Short and Michael Adams will meet in the semifinals of the qualifying section of the Fide world championship in Groningen, Holland, after beating Mikhail Krasenkow and Loek Van Wely respectively. A British pres-ence in the final is therefore guaranteed. Here are Short's

wo victories from his quarter-White: Nigel Short Black: Mikhail Krasenkow Fide world championship Groningen, December 1997 Sicilian Defence

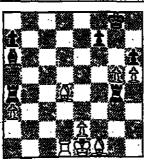
c6 Nbd7 b6 Bb7 9 Bg5 10 Re1 Nc3 Bxe7 Nxe4 Nd2 Ne4 Oxe7 dxe4 c5 f5 a5 Ric8 exf3 Nf6 Oxb7 8 d4 20 Bab7 brc4 Qc6 Qd6 exd5 Ne4 Rab8 24 d5 25 Nt3 Nxg3 Ne4 Rd8 24 Nc3 . Podo 1 g5 34 Nh4

Solution on page 38

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Agdestein - Hodgson. Hastings 1989. White's position seems very underdeveloped: his king, bishop and epawn are all on their original squares. Nevertheless, this did not prevent him from finding a quick

win. How did he continue?



GOLF

Hennessy

past 13 years, is no more, the company having decided that it was no longer getting value for money from its investment (Patricia Davies writes).

tournament of that stature."

that she will be Hennessy champion in perpetuity.

14 Oxford v Sunderland 15 Parl Valle v Wolves 16 OPR v Reading 17 Sheff Uto'v Charlton

18 Swindon v Ipswich 19 West Brom v Stoke

23 Fulham v Bristoi C 24 Garresby v Preston 25 Milmall v Luton 26 North pton v Walkall

27 Oldham v Burnley 28 Southend v Wycomi

THIRD DIVISION

SECOND DIVISION

Postol R v Bournem th

Women's tour loses

THE Hennessy Cup, one of the mainstays of the Women Professional Golfers Euro-pean Tour (WPGET) for the

Laura Davies, who won the Hennessy for the first time this year, had no doubts about the nature of the blow to the tour, which lost American Express, its overall sponsor, at the end of the season. "Devastating," the former world No I said. "That's a knife. It's very, very disappointing to lose a

Davies admitted that she was depressed about the Tour's prospects but was keen to help. "I'm talking to spon-sors myself," she said, "to try to find backing for a tournament using my name — a bit like the Betsy King Classic in the States. I've got a few irons in the fire and perhaps it will

It is scant consolation to her

Five-day deadline for King

LENNOX LEWIS will learn on Boxing Day if Evander Holyfield is to be his next opponent. After three days of talks with Don King, the American promoter, Panix. Lewis's promotion company, has agreed to do everything possible to have the fight staged by April 25 next year.

The London company has signed a promotion contract with King for all Lewis's contests while he is champion. Lewis is now waiting for Holyfield to sign with King. Panos Eliades, head of Panix, said he could not allow King more than five days to

assemble the signatures, because if for some reason Lewis's bout with Holyfield did not take place, Panix would have to arrange for Lewis to meet another opponent (most likely James "Bust-er" Douglas) in March. he hoped Holyfield's terms would not be excessive, for King had still to put the costs of staging the bout before

company that has Lewis under contract. "We have done everything possible to make the fight, Eliades said. "Now we shall

HBO, the American television

By Srikumar Sen BOXING CORRESPONDENT

BOXING

see what Holyfield values more, the undisputed championship or money." Holyfield, the International

retire after one more bout as undisputed champion. His aim was to meet Lewis, because the World Boxing Council champion was the only heavyweight of his time he had not met, but also

Boxing Federation and World Boxing Association champion, had said that he wanted to

because he needed Lewis's title

to become the undisputed champion.

Holyfield could not expect to be paid the \$20 million he received for meeting Michael Moorer, which had been difficult to sell on pay-per-view and had lost Showtime \$10

million. King also has to persuade Showtime to release him from a contract with them to show all his promotions. One way to achieve this would be to help Showtime to cut its losses on the Holyfield-Moorer fight.

Obituaries, page 19





Lewis, left, the one remaining obstacle that stands in the way of Holyfield achieving his two-fold ambition

18 Man City v Bractiond C 1 19 Peterboro v Walsali X 20 Portsmouth v A Villa 2 21 Preston v Stockport 2 22 QPR v Middlestrough X

23 R'ham v Sundeite 24 Sheft Uld v Bury

26 Wattord v Sheff Wed

27 West Brom v Stoke

POOLS FORECASTS

Coupon No, listure, lorecast

1 Barnsley v Derby X 2 Blackburn v C Palace 1 3 Coventry v Men Utd 2 4 Eventon v Bolton 1

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

9 Birm gham v Trannera 1 10 Bradiord v Hudders' toX 11 Bury v Crawe X 12 Man City v Notim F 1 13 Middlesbro v Stockport1 TREBLE CHANCE (home teams)

Bernsley, Leeds, Wimbledon, Brad-lord City, Bury, Blackpool, Bristol Rovers, Grimsby, Chester, Ayr.

BEST DRAWS: Barnsley, Wimble-

33 Leyton O v Doncaster 1
34 Macclest d v Rochdale2
35 Manshold v Lincoln 2
36 Notis Co v Harlippool 1
37 Peterboro v Brighton 1
38 Rotherham v Hull
39 Scarboro v Deningion

40 Aberdoen v Motherwelt 41 Dunfermine v Hearls 2 42 Hibertuan v Kulmen'ik 49 Rangers v Dundee U 1 44 St J'istane v Celtic 2 FIRST DIVISION

45 Andrie v St Mirren 46 Ayr v G Monon 47 Dundee v Falkirk 48 Hamilton v Perick 49 String v Ratin

don, Bury, Blackpool, Chester, FIXED ODDS: Homes: Birmingham, Swindon, Chesterfield, Southend, Rotherham, Aways: Menchester Uni-ted, Sunderland, Bristol City Draws: FA CUP THIRD ROUND

Arsenzi v Port Vale 2 Bernsley v Bolton 3 Blackburn v Wigan 4 Bournem'th v Hudd'i'd 2 5 Bratol R v loowich 6 Carditi v Oldhem 7 Cheston v Notins f Herelard v Trammere

29 Blackpool v Bristol C 10 Crewe v Borningham 11 C Palace v Scunthorpe 12 Darlington v Wolves 13 Derby v South pton THERD DIVISION 14 Grimsby v Norwich

15 Leeds v Oxland 32 Exeler v Same

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Barns-ley, Bristol Rovers, Peterborough, Ousers Park Rangers, Rotherteam, Gillagham, Aberdeen, St Mirren, Staling, Yeovil,

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Arsenal, Derby, Shelfield United, West Brom, Exerer Aways: Huddersfield, Wohes, Aston Villa, Draws: Barnsley, Bostol Rovers.

Vince Wright

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

35 Aberdeen v Dundee U X 36 Durdmäne v St Jistone 1 37 Nirnamock v Motherweit

FIRST DIVISION

43 Gateshead v Kidd m'ler 2 44 Halitax v Dovor 45 H'ford v Famborough

41 St Mirren v G Mor 42 String v Fallerk

Win £10,000 as a late Christmas present

The story so far . . .

It's a bit late to be making out a Christmas list, isn't it? But this is my Interactive Team Football list. I've got my 20 extra transfers burning a hole in my pocket.

For your FA Cup team? No, that's all done and dusted, with one exception. I'm talking about the 20 extra I got the other week for teams entered before December 13.

Well, you don't want to spend it all at once. The season has a long way to go.
Agreed; but I've just spent all week buying things for friends and relatives, and I think it's about time I gave

myself a treat. Who's on the list, then? You've crossed quite a few

names out. I see. Yes. I had Padovano down, but he's injured.

Your old striker jinks again. Possibly. An unkind person would suggest that he and his old mate Lombardo fancied a trip home to Italy for

Yes, you would have to be very low on Christmas spirit to suggest such a thing. Who else? I was wondering if I should give in and get Negri. I don't like to follow the crowd, but he's got 107 points, for goodness' sake, and he shows no signs of slowing

And yet it was Durie who scored a haltrick on Saturday, and he'd come a lot cheaper. You read my mind. But then yesterday I knew who it was I was looking for.

And that was . . . ? Jurgen Klinsmann, of course. He'll be my team's talisman, and my FA Cup side's as well. It's going to be Ossie's dream all over again, as Jurgen inspires Špurs in all competitions.

He isn't even in the ITF lists yet, though. No. but I'm not going to waste a transfer on an inferior

player. I can wait. Two things: the busy Christmas programme, and the

Good point about the Christmas games. Two in a week for the English Premiership clubs. Perhaps a striker looking at a couple of easy fixtures might be a good investment. But what's the year got to do with anything? Spurs only win the cup in a year with a one in it. 1998 has a one in it.

I meant at the end, of course. Say what you mean, and mean what you say, then. And what about 1967? Spurs beat Chelsea 2-1.

Funny year, 1967: a lot of hallucinogenic substances around. Just because people thought they saw it ...

Only a couple of weeks until the FA Cup league begins — and for

the person who picks the best cup team, a handsome prize awaits

o it's Emley, then. In the wake of the Unibond League team's ejection of Lincoln City from the FA Cup in a second-round replay, supporters of West Ham, their third-round opponents, on their way to Blackburn on Saturday, were asking "Where is Emley, anyway?" and "Will the replay be at Huddersfield?" - mindful, no doubt, of their team's history of hiccups against lowly opposition.

There are no foregone conclusions in the cup, but ITF entrants listening to the halftimes at a game, or at home checking Ceefax. will experience more than the usual frisson as news comes through of underdogs taking a shock lead, or hanging on with

minutes to go.

Many people have decided to enter a new team specifically for the ITF FA Cup League (including the Tennents Scottish Cup, which will earn ITF points from January 24). Any team entered from now on is entitled to 20 transfers, likely to be vital as favoured teams fall by the wayside.

Who will those teams be in the third round? Probably not West Ham, whatever their followers' fears: Wrexham, renowned cup fighters, won a replay at Upton Park last season, but the Hammers are formidable at home these days, and John Hartson, barring injury, would appear to be a good bet for a hatful of goals. Selhurst Park, on the





other hand, could stage two giant-killings in two days; Crystal Palace, without a league win at home, will be sweating before the visit of Scunthorpe United on the Saturday, while Wrexham visit south London the following

> **HOW IS YOUR TEAM DOING?** Call the ITF Checkline on 0891 884 643 50p a minute, using a Touch one telephone. Public calls cost twice as much



Gordon Durie, who scored a hat-trick at the weekend, picked up a handy 18 points. The next best striker's haul was six

day to face unpredictable

Wimbledon. The meeting of Chelsea and Manchester United will be close, and it is a brave person who would select players from either team, although tight games, with replays a strong possibility, offer opportunities to get two appearances from a player before needing to think about a team change.

For those who want to register an FA Cup League team, the next entry form will appear in The Times on December 26.

NICK SZCZEPANIK

FAXBACK: YOUR UP-TO-DATE TEAM SCORE

The brand new Times Faxback service provides you with a complete results sheet of your team, showing current and total scores, dates, times and details of transfers, as well as your position in the ITF League and, if appropriate, your mini-league (womens, students, youth). Scores and transfer confirm are updated by 12 noon on the day following a match or matches.

Make sure you have your ten-digit PIN number ready when you call. To obtain an ITF Team Faxback, simply pick up the handset of the fax machine and dial the telephone number below. If your fax does not have a handset, attach a handset or press the on-hook or telephone button instead and dial the number below. Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked. Calls cost £1 per minute and are available in the UK only.

The number to call for your Faxback is:

0991 111 333

If you have any problems operating this service, call the Faxback Helpline on 0171-412 3795. This service is provided by Telecom Express, Westminster Tower, London SE1. 7SP.

LEAGUE UPDATES





Monthly prize of premierable tickets

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

WOMEN'S LEAGUE Monthly prize of premiership tickets, signed football and sports bag

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

C Purdy B Fletcher S Brooks S Whitfield J Gardner S Reader M Hussain L Emery A Bearn A Hembrow C Purdy P Johnston T Saul H Irvine J Woolner J Peppar Adach P Sloan S Allport J Bitmead

Kates Cosmos Ab Fab Sandras Specials Snail Busters 15 Chumbawumbas Good Luck Malika Buggsy's Boys Harry's Herces Kates Upstans Janes FC One Peppar Pots Fantasy Wolves II Passio Utd

STUDENTS' LEAGUE

N Wheatley G Wilson	H D G Is A Sad Waster Dog Soldiers
T Gardner	6 Chumhawumhas
Mr. N Wheatley	Witheridge is ill
J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas
C Marianezak	Jansen 🤊 Li
N Wheatley	A Tight Horse Is Fun
Steven Shipley	Set Against
J Windeau	Father Shabooboo
I McGill	The White Helmets
J Frost	Variety Sports Inter
M Titterington	Sijohn'swhitehse
or therringum	
E Carmichael	Jedi Masters
F Ferguson	Saucy Sue Barker
P Henson	Hensonhammers
T Sharple.	Mr Men
M Grifaths	The Town
D Garrett	The Splice Boys
C Van Hough	The Boy Sprouts
5 Wilson	FC Rock
2-121011	LC LOW

YOUTH LEAGUE

Ballygallyrovers Horley Flames 15 Chumbawun Jansen's XI Smooth Urated The Offspring Fe Krystonia Three Up The League Fe Olivers Arms Olivers Army Montys Dons Aye Flash XI Joesbunchoftarts

ITF LEAGUE

D Fenion
Mr M Jones Mike Madden S Legg Malcolm Jackson Goose I No name B Fazakerley D Shuter Mr M Jones LPC 4 Don 2

Mr M Jones G Rainbow N Wheatley Mary Ann Kennedy Mr A Coloumbe C Burr Af Hastings P Turner Mr M Jones A Luckhurst G Wilson D Shuter K Farhall Graeme Dabnor C Sloan Mr D Edbrooke Stainer

P Turner A Luckhurst J Strickland Barba Papa a la Bacon

Mary Ann Kennedy D Walton Michael Huddlestor Jon Pregon J Hunt Steven Adams A Luckhurst BOWTI P Turner A Maddocks Michael Hora

A Lynn George Mijuskovich P Turner A Ston RJ Ward Graeme Dabnor Andy Robson J Kitchen W Clark P Turner

i Ratipit
Mary Ann Kennedy
D Shuter
A Luckhurzt
Susan Makin
Philip Wand
A Luckhurst
J Hunt
J Dungnan
Andrew Bates
Genero Dehpor Graeme Dabno Adam Fitzjohn J Hun: Mrs P Tansley

Out Of The Blue Prochers never change

Rainbows Topteam H D G Is A Sad Waster Inverness Undecided Inverness Undeci Mr Wads XI Burr's Spurs 4 Golden Wonders Turners Earners S Dog Soldiers Rassell 2

St Remy Strikers Brantingham FC Tumers Earnt 5
John Hunt Taun
Yukan Merebani Liberos
Turners Earners 6
Caroline B
CLANB

> United John Hunt Fa Cup A Cell Block H vote Spoilers Тоо Рап Numpry Nuts
> Pulp Faction III
> The Warriors (Come out to play

Sees XI Turners Earnt | Game of Two Pints Chelvea 2 John Hunt Taunton 8 Turners Earners 4 Beta
Hundeys Rangers
St. Pairick's Charioteers
Pegasus And Unicorns
Perevood Form Angus's Boingers Big Mac Europe Turners Earners o Seartak Monkey Norchalont A FC 4 St Remy Streetlighte Club 15-30 Sephat Dressm

Simples Dream
Blazen Heads
Turners Earners 1
Shorts Hits
Winster Warriors 1
Quito Fan
Ki43
Comes Am Both 12 Cymru Am Byth 12 Eastbrook Stars

Edition woo Inwitheshoutanit Raighy Boys Varige Norice Wink Wink Oring Pack RNG Don: Spud2 Wannabe Herres XI Caroline A John Hunt Taumon 4 Fe Pippa Wetherby Racing ? St Remy Strollers Al4 Al4 John Hunt Tauman ! Drowned Goldfish

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

Simon Grayson Paul Simpson Alf-Inge Haaland Sieve Potts John Salako Robert Lee Robert Lee
Rob Savage
Dean Blackwell
Jonathan Hunt
David Tuntle
Kyle Lightbourne
David Bany
Richard Shaw
Kevin Gallacher
Frank Lebourl
Tam Breacker
Gareth Southgate
Bjorn Kvarme
Kenny Cunningha

608

Bjotn Kvarme Kenny Cunninghar Nigel Martyn David Wetherall Teddy Sheringhan Dave Watson Phil Babb Detunis Wise Andy Townsend Dean Holdsworth Paul Williams Gary Mabbutl David Seaman Ugo Ehiogu Kevin Hitchcock Patrick Berger Andrew Liddell Lee Dixon
Lars Bohinen
John Beresford
Pontus Kaamark
Steve Clarke

Sieve Clarke
Steve Lomas
Robin Van Der Laan
Jason Euell
Assey Keller
Graeme Le Saux
Richard Jobson
Roger Cross
Stewart Cassfedire
Neil Reoffearn
Andry Sinton
Robbie Fowler
Colin Hendry
Danny Williamson
Darren Pitcher
Gary Neville
David Beckham
John Scales

John Scales Alan Wright John Hartson Spenser Prior lam Dowie Mark Wright Nicky Eaden

Everton
Liverpool
Chelses
Asion Villa/Middlesbrough
Wimbledon Covenity City Tottenham Hotspu Aston Villa Chelsea Liverpool Barnsley Barnsley Manchester Manchester United Leeds United West Harn Crystal Palace Crystal Palace Derby County Arsenal Blockburn Rovers Newcastle United Leicester City Chelsea West Harn United Derby County Wimbledon Leicester City Chelsea Lecds United Leds United Leds United Leds United Leeds United Wimbledon
Barnsley
Tostenham Hotspur
Liverpool
Blackburn Rovers
Everton
Crystal Palace
Manchester United
Manchester United
Manchester Hotspur
Aston Villa
West Ham United West Ham United Leicester City Vest Ham United Liverpool Barnsley Newcastle United Tottenham Horspar Derby County Chelsea

Newcastle United Coventry City Blackburn Rovers Chelsea West Ham United Aston Villa Liverpool Wimbledon Leeds United

INTERNET LEAGUE

Mike Madden Mary Ann Kennedy Graeme Dabnor Barba Papa a la Bacon Mary Ann Kennedy Michael Huddlestone Brian O'Hare P Bown Chris Forde

Michael Horan George Mijuskovich Graeme Dabnor Andy Robson Tim Oldfield Henry Wheeler Jeremy Dwyer Mary Ann Kennedy Susan Makin

Poachers never change Inverness Undecided St Remy Strikers Novele Spoilers Pulp Faction III
The Warriors (Come o Bees XI Game of Two Pints St. Patrick's Chario Big Mac Europe St Remy Streeffighters Club IS 30

Winster Warriors 1

Quito Fan Nudge Nudge Wink Win Oilrig Pack RNG

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS All 1997-8 metches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Terments Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers. POINTS AWARDED Keeps clean sheet (per Half)** +3 points
Scores goal +20 points
Saves penalty +1 point Full backs/Cen Keeps clean sheet*

Scores goal +4 points +3 points +1 point Midfield player Scores goal POINTS DEDUCTED Concedes goal Full backs/Central de Concedes goal All players

** Must have played a complete helf in the match to earn +3 points *Must have played for 75 minutes in the match †Must have played for 45 minutes in the match

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENTER ITF £1,000, a signed Mitre football and a Mitre Sports bag, and tickets to a premier league match of your choice can be won every month, plus the chance to win £10,000 in a separate FA Cup League so enter the ITF now.

The manager of the month can be won by any team, no matter where it is in the overall ITF league. The prize simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one month. if you are a student or a woman (18 or over) you may also enter the appropriate mini-league, while under 18 year olds enter the Youth league. These all carry separate monthly prizes.

By entering the ITF, your team will automatically be entered Into a separate FA Cup league. Your players will earn you points for the FA Cup league (Littlewoods FA Cup and Tennents Scottish FA Cup) as well as the main ITF league.

Remember the earlier you register, the more transfers your team will be allocated

HOW TO ENTER

Entries to ITF via The Times are now by phone only, on

0891 405 011

From the Republic of Ireland only +44 990 100 308

You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). ■ Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders,

4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.

Do not spend more than 35 million.

■ Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one club.

g Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow the step-by-step instructions.

You will be given a ten-digit personal indentification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number as you will need your PIN for making transfers and check-

A new team will score points on future games. 0891 calls call will cost about double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being

more than one manager of the month, the winner will be event of there being more tiebreak will operate.

WILL I'S NEW

27077

WHAT'S ON

the UK entertainment and Internet service. LineOne provides

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MUNEY

stories and reports from Sky, leading newspapers and the 💎 to bring you news about your own team like a shot.

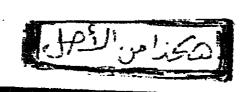
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PULL BACK

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GO ...

Full updated players lists and transfer guide

Careful examination of the Christmas fixtures may yield dividends in the transfer market for new players

A Pride Park, Dechy:
County's newly-built
home ground, a casual visitor can expect to hear a strange and alarming noise rolling around the stands. rising to a crescendo before being lost in a ghostly echo in the desolate wastes of the reclaimed industrial land that surrounds the stadium.
Poooooooommmm!! It is

most frequently heard after any action involving the team's Estonian goalkeepr, Mart Poom. The fact that Poom's surname is supposed to rhyme with "norm" rather than "room" puts nobody off. The Derby supporters who shout his name were no doubt disappointed that their team could only draw 0-0 with Crystal Palace on Saturday, but for Poom it completed a successful week that included two clean sheets; the goalless draw at Newcastle in midweek helped any ITF entrant with Poom as their goalkeeper to a total of 14 points - three for

appearance points. It provided a timely reminder that careful consideration of the fixture lists can be rewarding. Two transfers are used by bringing in a player for one specific game; a player due to play a succession of games against potentially unthreatening opposition can save a potentially useful transfer later in the season. This week, the Christmas

each goalless half, and two

programme sees all FA Carling Premiership clubs playing twice, giving teams the opportunity to make up lost ground, or open up a decisive gap, with two three-point hauls. In ITF too, a player hitting form could net you enough points to jump thou-sands of places. Although there are no New Year's Day fixtures in England this year, next weekend sees some inter-

esting pairs of games.
Poom and Derby face Newcastle United at home on Boxing Day and Barnsley away next Sunday, and will be optimistic of shutting both out. Tottenham, a team down in the dumps after hig defeats by Chelsea and Coventry, could be boosted by their victory over Barnsley in a fixture many tipped them to lose and the news that Jurgen

vourite, will be rejoining them on loan. Add to that the avowed intention of David Ginola to force his way back into the France international picture before summer's World Cup, and an away game against out-of-form As-ton Villa and the north London derby at White Hart Lane look attractive propositions.

Manchester United are unlikely to be quaking in their boots at the prospect of receiv-ing Everton, first away win of the season or not, nor of a trip to Highfield Road, despite Coventry's four goals in their last home match. Chelsea, however, might be

a team to avoid if you are looking to plunder players. They play at The Dell next Monday, and could, despite Southampton's recent improvement, continue their recent goalscoring form away

However, their Boxing Day visitors are Wimbledon, who have won the last two District Line derbies at Stamford Bridge; two years ago to the day they finished with ten men (Vinnie Jones having been dismissed for a foul on Ruud Gullit) but still triumphed 2-1, and took the honours last autumn with a powerful performance, winning 4-2. The horses for courses argument is a powerful one in football.

ITF helpline: 01582 702720.

30101 B O'Neil 30201 T Adams



Mart Poom of Derby County, who accumulated an impressive 14 points over the week

-22 13

3.00

Arsenal

0

THIS WEEK'S MOVES

There are no changes to the ITF lists this week

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

☐ EACH TEAM that was entered at the start of the season was allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date had its number of transfers reduced by three per week up to December 13 Teams registered before noon that day were allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered since then and from now on will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the

THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you

YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of

☐ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

☐ YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score

CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 628. Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

•				grir - K	
Cade	Name X (2.87)		Cost (Cm)	Ned	c, ga
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	2.00	2	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	õ	
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.00	Ŏ	3
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00	ō	_3
10501	T Flowers	Blackbum R	3.50	8.	٠. ۵
10601	K Branagan	Bolton W	1.50	ō	3
10701	S Кепт	Celtic	4.00	·ō	. `
10702	J Gould	Cettic	3,50	8	:
10801	E De Goey	Cheisea	3.00	3	•
10901	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1,50	¯·0	ં 1
11001	C Nash	Crystal Palace	0.25	0.	•
11002	K Miller	Crystal Palace	2.00	. 7	3
11101	M Poom	Derby County	1.50	14	4
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.00	3	2
11301	l Westwater	Dunfermline	1.00	. 0	
11401	N Southall	Everton	2.00	0	
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	3.50	-11	4
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.50	-9 .	-
11602	O Gottskalkssor	n Hibernian 🕟	1.50	Ø	
11701.	D Lekovic.	Kilmamock	1,00	8	
	N Martyn	Leeds United	. 3.50	. 8	6
	K Keller	Leicester City	3.00	1.	
12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50	8	. 5
12101		Manchester Utd	5.00	16	\$
2201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00	-	
12301	S Given	Newcastle United	3.00	0	1
12401 -	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0_	.2
2501		Sheffield Wed	2.00	-7	-1
2702	P Jones ···	Southampton	1.00	2 .	_
	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50	0 .	2
2801	i Walker	Tottenham H	2.50	8	2
2901	L Mikiosko	West Ham United	2.00	0	_
3001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	0	5
			·		

12901	L Mikjosko	West Ham United	2.00	0	- 4
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	0	51
	20 m	THE RESERVE OF THE			
COOK 1	100.00		an Fat	1000	
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	0	12
20202		Arsenal	3.00	0	27
20203	E Petit S Staumton	Arsenal Aston Villa	3.00 2.50	0	15 14
20302		Aston VIIIa	2.50	0.	16
20303	S Grayson	Aston Villa	2.00		17
	F Nelson	Aston Villa	2.00 0.50	.⊸3	
	N Eaden N Thompson	Bamsley - Bamsley	0.50	0	· ~5
20403	D Barnard	Romelau	1.00	-2	-7
20502	J Kenna	Blackbum R Blackbum R	3.00	5	32
	P Valery N Cox	Bolton W	2.00	Ö	9
21901	M Whitlow	Bolton W	1,50	٥	. 9
20602		Bolton W	2.00 1.00	0 –2.	4 -4
20603 2070:	J Phillips T Bowd	Bolton W Celtic	3.50	5	45
20702	T Boyd T McKinlay	Celtic	3.50	.D	2
20/03	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	9	. 46
20501	G Le Saux D Petrescu	Chelsea Chelsea	4.00 4.00	5	49
20802	C Babavaro .	Chelsea	2.00	ס	20
20803	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	13 10
20901 2000:	D Burrows M Hali	Coventry City Coventry City	1.00 1.00	0	. g
20904	R Niisson	Coventry City	1.00	0	1
21001	R Niisson D Gordon	Crystal Palace	1.50	4	17
2100 <u>2</u> 21004	M Edworthy J Smith	Crystal Palace Crystal Palace	1.50 1.50	ő	-1
21101	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	8	-1 20
27102	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	8	1
21.103	G Rowett A Hinchcliffe	Derby County Everton	1.50 2.50	5	. · e
21402	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	4	
21403	T Phelan	Everton	1.50	0	1 5
21404 21501	M Ward	Evertori Hearts	1.50 1.50	0 -4	Ē
21701 21701	G Locke D Kerr	Kijmarnock	1.00	5	٤
21801	G Kelly	Leeds Utd	2.50	5.	23 25
21802	D Robertson	Leeds Utd Leicester City	2.50 2.50	4	3
22001	S Guppy S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	0	21
22002	J McAteer	Liverpool	3.00	5	13
22003 ·	R Jones	Liverpool Manchester Utd	3.00 4.00	0	11 20
2210] 22100	D irwin G Neville	Manchester Utd	3.50	10	44
22183	P Neville	Manchester Utd	3.50	9	33
22301	S Watson	Newcastle Utd	3.00 ²	4	17 14
22302	W Barton	Newcastle Utd Newcastle Utd	2.00	ŏ	16
22203	J Beresford S Pearce	Newcastle Utd	3.00	4	9
22401	A Cleland	Rangers	3.00	0	20
22402	S Stensaas	Rangers	3.00	Ö	25 15
22501	P Blondeau	Sheffield Wed Sheffield Wed	2.00 2.00	. _ 4	~11
22502	l Nolan	Southampton:	1.50	Q	18
22701 22702	J Dodd F Benail	Southampton	0.75	0	5
22703	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	0 5	2
22801	C Wilson	Tottenham H	2.00 2.00	0	- <u>9</u>
22802	J Edinburgh	Tottenham H Tottenham H	2.00	5	C
22903 22901	S Cart J Dicks	West Ham Utd	3.00	٥	. 0
22902	A impey	West Ham Utd	1.50	-2 0) -1 0
22903	T Breacker	West Ham Utd	2.00 2.00	Ö	17
23001.	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	200	0	13
23002	K Cunningham	115-blades	200	0	∴6

30203		Arsenal	2.00	0	14
30204		Arsenal Aston Villa	3.00	0	11 11
30302	U Ehlogu	Aston Villa	3.00	Ŏ	23
30401		Barnsley Barnsley	1.00 0.50	-2 -3	-20 -23
30403		Barnsley	0.50	_3 -3	-23 -8
30502		Blackburn R	3.00	5	28
30504 30505	- ,	Blackburn R Blackburn R	2.50 2.00	5 0	21 2
30601	G Taggert	Bolton W	1.50	Ö	5
30602		Bolton W	1.00	-1	12
30603		Bolton W Bolton W	1.00 1.50	-1 0	~3 13
30701	E Annoni	Celtic	1.50	5	12
30702	M MacKay	Celtic	3.00	0	2
30703		Celtic Celtic	3.00 3.00	5 0	44 29
30801	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.00	5	39
30802	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00		24
30803 30804		Chelsea Cheisea	2.50 2.50	1	14 ~1
30901	L Daish	Coventry City	1.50	Ö	0
30902 30903	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50 1.50	0	13
31001		Coventry City Crystal Palace	1.50	0 4	-5 15
31002	A Linighan	Crystal Palace	0.75	4	10
31003		Crystal Palace	0.75	0	0 (
31004 31101	H Hreidarsson I Stimac	Crystal Palace Derby County	1.00 2.50	4	1 13
31102		Derby County	1.50	0	12
31201	S Pressley	Dundee Utd	2.00	1 –1	17
31301 31401	G Shields S Bilic	Dunfermline Everton	1.50 2.50	0	-1 -18
31402	D Watson	Everton	2.00	5	15
31404	C Tiler D Weir	Everton	1.50 2.00	4 -5	12 25
31501 31601	J Hughes	Hearts Hibernian	2.00	-o -4	-13
31801	D Wetherall	Leeds Utd	2.50	4	35
31802 31803	·	Leeds Utd Leeds Utd	2.00 2.00	5 5	24 14
31804	n moienaar L Radebe	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	15
31901	M Elliott	Leicester City	3.50	0	46
31902	P Kaamark	Leicester City	2.00 2.50	4 0	31 d
31903 31904	S Walsh S Prior	Leicester City Leicester City	2.00	-1	ا 20
32001	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	5 {
32002 32003	D M atteo B Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00 3.00	5 4	21 30
30501	H Berg	Liverpool Manchester Utd	3.50	Ö	27
32101	D May	Manchester Utd	3.50	0	0
32102 32301	G Pallister P Albert	Manchester Utd Newcastle Utd	3.50 2.50	10 3	40 9
32302	D Peacock	Newcastle Utd	3.00	-1	6
32303	S Howey	Newcastle Utd	2.00 3.00	3	1 1
32304	A Pistone S Poπini	Newcastle Utd Rangers	3.50	-1	10 29
32402	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	0	29
32403 32404	L Amoruso R Gough	Rangers Rangers	3.50 4.00	0	0 5
32501	D Walker	Sheffield Wed	2.00	-3	-4]
32502	J Newsome	Sheffield Wad	2.00	-3	-3 [
32503 32701	P Atherton R Dryden	Sheffield Wed Southampton	2.00 1.00	0	-5
32702	C Lundekvam	Southampton	1.00	0	2
32704 32601	K Monkou S McCluskev	Southampton St Johnstone	1.00 0.50	0	7
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham H	2.50	5	6
32802	J Scales	Tottenham H	2.50 2.00	0	1 3
32803 32804	R Vega C Calderwood	Tottenham H Tottenham H	2.00	5	6
32901	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	2.50	-2	o (
32902	R Hali	West Ham United West Ham United	2.00 2.00	. 0 3	0
31403 32903	D Unsworth S Potts	West Ham United	1.50	õ	2
32904	! Pearce	West Ham United	2.00	-2	-6
33001 33002	C Perry D Biackwell	Wimbledon Wimbledon	2.50 2.50	0	13 18
33002	P DISONALII		-		- 1
			ALL PLAN	2.7	***
			et lent	موادد <u>موادد م</u>	Traffed

33002	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.50	0
17	2			
Code	Name .	Tourn	Cost (£m)	Week
40101	E Jess	Aberdeen .	2.00	1
40102		Aberdeen	200	i
40201	M Overmans	Arsenal	5.50	ò
40201	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.50	ŏ
40202	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	ŏ
40203	R.Parlour	Arsenal	2.50	ŏ.
	n.ranous D Platt	Arsenal	1.50	Ď
40205				2.
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	3.00	
	! Taylor_	Aston Villa	2.50	5
40401	N Redfeam	Barnsley	3.00	1
40402	E Tinkler	Barnsley	2.00	1
40403	D Sheridan	Barnsley	1.00	0
40404	M Builock	Barnsley	0.50	1
40501	J Wilcox	Blackburn R	3:00	3
40502	B McKinlay	Blackburn R	3.00	3
40503	T Sherwood	Blackburn R	3.00	3
40504	G.Flitcroft	Blackburn R	3.00	1
40601	A Thompson	Bolton W	2.50	0
40602	S Sellars	Bolton W	2.00	٥
40603	P Frandsen	Bolton W	2.00	1

Code	Mazne	Team	Cost (£m)	Week	Total	Code	Name .	Team	Cost (£in) .	Weel	t Tot
40605	J Pollock	Bolton W	2.00	1	28	50101	B Dodds	Aberdeen	4.00	1	2
40701	A Thom	Celtic	4.50	i	26	50201	l Wright	Arsenal ·	7.50	0	5
40702	P O'Donnell	Celtic	3.00	0	7	50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	8.50	0	4
42503 40704	R Blinker C Burley	Celtic Celtic	3.00 3.00	3 8	21 46	50301 50302	D Yorke S Collymore	Aston Villa Aston Villa	6.00 5.00	0 2	2
40705	P Lambert	Celtic	3.00	3	14	50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.00	ő	1
40801	D Wise	Chelsea	3.50	2	32	50401	G Hristov	Barnsley	1.50	ŏ	
40802	R DI Matteo	Chelsea	4.00	2	33	50402	J Hendrie	Barnsley	1.50	0	1
40803 40804	E Newton G Povet	Chelsea Chelsea	1.50 3.00	0	9 28	51102 50403	A Ward C Marcelle	Barnsley Barnsley	2.00 1.00	.0	. 2
40901	G McAllister	Coventry City	2.50	ō	20	50501	K Gallacher	Blackburn R	5.50	2	4
40902	T Soltvedt	Coventry City	1.50	1	22	50502	M Dahlin	Blackburn R	4.00	0	1
40903 40904	J Salako P Telfer	Coventry City Coventry City	1.50 1.50	0	15 5	50503	C Sutton	Blackburn R	6.00	0	5
41002	S Rodger	Crystal Palace	1.00	2	24	50602 50603	N Blake P Beardsley	Bolton W Bolton W	3.50 2.00	1	3
41003	D Pitcher	Crystal Palace	0.25	0	0	53003	D Holdsworth	Bolton W	3.00	Ö	1
41004	P Warhurst	Crystal Palace	1.50	2	26 22	51601	D Jackson	Celtic	4.00	0	1
41005 41101	A Lombardo A Asanovic	Crystal Palace Derby County	3.00 2.50	0	6	50703	T Johnson	Celtic	2.50	0	
	S Eranio	Derby County	3.50	ĭ	25	50704 50705	S Donnelly H Larsson	Celtic Celtic	4.50 4.50	0	7
41103	D Powell	Derby County	1.50	3	9	50801	G Zola	Cheisea	7.00	2	4
41104 41105	C Dailly R Van Der Laan	Derby County Derby County	1.50 1.00	0	19 8	50802		Chelsea	5.00	ō	2
41106	J Hunt	Derby County	1.00	Õ	14	50901	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	1	4
41201	R Winters	Dundee Utd	3.50	1	40	50902 50903	D Huckerby N Whelan	Coventry City Coventry City	2.50 2.00	1	~
41301	A Smith	Duntermline	3.50	0	43	51001	N Shipperley	Crystal Palace	1.50	ò	2
41401 41402	G Speed J Parkinson	Everton Everton	3.50 1.50	5 0	43 0	51003	B Dyer	Crystal Palace	2.00	0	1
41403	G Farrelly	Everton	1.50	š	12	51004	M Padovano	Crystal Palace	2.50	0	
41404	D Williamson	Everton	2.00	0	19	51101	D Sturridge F Baiano	Derby County	4.00 4.50	1	2
41405	J Oster	Everton	2.50	3	3	51103 51104	D Burton	Derby County Derby County	1.50	2	-
41501 41601	N McCann C Jackson	Hearts Hibernian	3.50 2.00	1 0	48 6	51105	P Wanchope	Derby County	3.50	ī	
41602	B Lavety	Hibernian	2.00	ŏ	20	51201	A McLaren	Dundee Utd	3.00	4	2
41701	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	2.00	0	0	51202	K Olofsson	Dundee Utd	4.00	4	4
41001	D Hopkin	Leeds Utd	3.50	2	27	51301 51401	G Britton D Ferguson	Dunfermline Everton	2.00 4.00	0	1
41801 41802	L Bowyer A Haaland	Leeds Utd Leeds Utd	3.00 2.00	1 3	16 29	51402	N Barmby	Everton	3.00	1	i
41803	L Sharpe	Leeds Utd	2.50	ō	ō	51404	D Cadamarteri	Everton	2.50	.2	
41804	B Ribeiro	Leeds Utd	2.50	6	13	51501	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	2	2
41901	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00 2.00	0 1	10 30	51502 51602	J Hamilton S Crawford	Hearts Hibemian	3.00 3.00	2	
41902 41903	N Lennon M izzet	Leicester City Leicester City	2.00	1	36	51701	P Wright	Kilmamock	5.00	4	2
41904	S Taylor	Leicester City	1.50	ò	Ď	51702	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.50	Ž .	_ 2
42001	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.00	3	52	51801	J Has sel baink	Leeds Utd	3.00	3	2
42002	O Leonhardsen M Thomas	Liverpool	3.00 3.00	3 0	26 14	51803	R Wallace	Leeds Utd Leeds Utd	3.50 2.00	2 0	4
42003 42004	J Redknapp	Liverpool Liverpool	3.00	3	20	51804 51901	H Kewell S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	1	1
42006	P Ince	Liverpool	4.00	G .	21	51902	E Heskey	Leicester City	4.50	Ò	2
42101	D Beckham	Manchester Utd	8.00	6	50	51903	i Marshall	Leicester City	2.50	0	2
42102 42103	R Giggs R Keane	Manchester Utd Manchester Utd	7.00 5.00	9 0	46 23	51904	G Fenton R Fowler	Leicester City Liverpool	2.00 8.00	1 2	1 2
42104	N Butt	Manchester Utd	4.00	5	42	52001 52002	r rowier P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	2
	A Cole	Manchester Utd	7.00	7	67	52003	K Riedie	Liverpool	4.50	0	2
42201 42301	B Davies R Lee	Motherwell Newcastie Utd	2.00 5.00	2 0	8 25	52004	M Owen	Liverpool	4.50	4	1.
42301	K Gillespie	Newcastle Utd	3.50	2	31	52101 52102	O Solskjaer T Sheringham	Manchester Utd Manchester Utd	7.50 7.00	3	2
42303	D Batty	Newcastle Utd	2.50	2	19	52103	P Scholes	Manchester Utd	6.00	2	2
	J Barnes	Newcastle Utd Rangers	3.00 6.50	3 1	38 26	52201	O Coyle	Motherwell	3.00	6	3
42401 42402	B Laudrup P Gascolone	Rangers	6.00	ò	24	52202	T Coyne	Motherwell	3.00	2	3
42403	J Thern	Rangers	3.00	Ō	16	52301 52303	A Shearer F Asprilla	Newcastle Utd Newcastle Utd	10.00 6.00	0 2	1,
42404	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	5	31	52304	J Tomasson	Newcastle Utd	2.00	1	- 1
42501 42701	B Carbone J Magilton	Sheffield Wed Sheffield Wed	3.00 2.00	0	33	52401	M Negri	Rangers	8.50	4	10
	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wed	2.00	4	23	52402	S Rozental G Durie	Rangers	3.50	0 18	2
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wed	1.00	0	.7	52403 52501	A Booth	Rangers Sheffield Wed	3.00 3.00	10	3
42505 42702	G Whittingham R Slater	Sheffield Wed Southampton	1.50 0.75	1	12	50702		Sheffield Wed	3.00	1	3
	K Richardson	Southampton	0.50	1	20	52503	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	
	C Palmer	Southampton	2.00	1	21	52701 52502	M Le Tissler D Hirst	Southampton Southampton	7.00 2.50	1	1: 2:
	M Cakley	Southampton	1.50 0.75	1 0	6	52702	E Ostenstad	Southampton	4.00	3	1
	A Sekerliogiu A Sinton	St Johnstone Tottenham H	3.00	3	18	52704	K Davles	Southampton	3.50	0	i
	D Anderton	Tottenham H	3.00	2	7	52601	G O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.50	1	2
	R Fox	Tottenham H	2.00	3	23	52602 52801	R Grant S iversen	St Johnstone Tottenham H	1.00 3.50	0	10
	D Howells D Ginola	Tottenham H Tottenham H	2.00 3.00	0 9	16 36	52302	L Ferdinand	Tottenham H	3.50 7.50	2	1; 2;
	E Berkovic	West Ham Utd	2.50	1	45	52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham H	3.50	ō	1:
	S Lomas	West Ham Utd	2.50	-2	24	52803	J Domingues	Tottenham H	3.00	Ō	Ī
	J Moncur	West Ham Utd	2.00	0	13	52901 52902	J Hartson P Kitson	West Ham United		1	4
	R Earle N Ardlev	Wimbledon Wimbledon	4.00 2.00	0	29 25	52902 52903	P Kitson J Dowie	West Ham United West Ham United		1 0	1
	v Armey V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	Ö	17	53001	M Gayle	Wimbledon	4.00	ŏ	1
42904	M Hughes	Wimbledon	2.00	Ō	26	53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.00	0	2
43004	C Hughes	Wimbledon	1.50	0	16	53004	C Cort	Wimbledon	3.00	0	

Code -	Name	Team	Cost (£m)	Week	Total	Code	Name	Teem	Cost (£m)	Week	Total
60102	A Miller	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	ΟJ	61601	J Duffy	Hibemian	2.00	-1	1
30201	A Wenger	Arsenal	5.00	0	26	61701	B Williamson	Kilmamock	1.00	3	13
0301	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	0	13	61801	G Graham	Leeds United	3.00	3	29
0401	D Wilson	Barnsley	0.50	-1	1	61901	M O'Neill	Leicester City	2.50	-1	21
30501	R Hodgson	Blackburn R	3.50	3	37	62001	R Evans	Liverpool	3.00	3	26
30601	C Todď	· Bolton W	1.50	-1	13	62101	A Ferguson	Manchester Utd	5.00	6	41
30701	W Jansen	Celtic	4.00	3	35	62201	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00	3	7
0801	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	3	33	62301	K Daiglish	Newcastle Utd	4.00	Ō	20
30901	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.00	-1	13	62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	3	35
1001	S Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75	1	13	62502	R Atkinson	Sheffield Wed	1.50	-1	7
31101	J Smith	Derby County	2.50	2	23	62701	D Jones	Southampton	0.50	1	ġ
1201	T McLean	Dundee United	2.00	3	17	62601	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.50	-1	11
1301	B Paton	Dunfermline	1.00	-1	15	62802	C Gross	Tottenham H	2.00	3	4
1401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00	3	7	62901	H Redknapp	West Ham United		<u>-</u> 1	15
1501	J Jefferies	Hearts	3.50	-1	33	63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.00	o o	16

Yorkshire boxer who drew a crowd

BRUCE WOODCOCK. the former British and European heavyweight chamion, has died at the age of 76. Doncaster-born and bred, Woodcock was a big name in British boxing in the years immediately following the Second World War.

He won the British and Empire titles by knocking out Jack London at White Hart Lane in July. 1945 before a crowd of 60,000 and a year later added the European crown by knocking out Albert Renet. One of his most

memorable defences of his British title was in 1949, against Freddie Mills. who he knocked out in the fourteenth round. He retired in 1950 after being dethroned by Jack Gardner and became a publican.

Obituaries, page 19

Borrowed time

E SQUASH: Jansher Khan, of Pakistan, has retained his world No I ranking to complete a tenth year at the top of the international circuit. But Peter Nicol, of Scotland. seems certain to replace him when the next ranking list is issued in February.

Nicol, ranked second has beaten Jansher three times this year and reached the final of the World Open, which Jansher decided to miss, in which he lost to Rodney Eyles, of Australia, who is ranked fourth.

Banned for life

E ICE SKATING: The Russian speedskater Svetlana Fedotkina, an Olympic banned for life after refusing to submit to a dope test. Fedotkina tested positive for anabolic steroids nearly two years ago and was suspended until January

in November this year. she refused to submit to a test while training in Calgary. Alberta, saying she was on a private visit. "We consider it a repeat offence," Gerd Zimmermann, the president of the International Skating Federation, said. "A lifelong ban follows, there is no doubt in this case."

All downhill

SKIING: The pre-Christmas World Cup Alpine skiing campaign fizzled out in acrimony and a notable absence of seasonai goodwili yesterday after another race was lost because of the conditions in Madonna Di Campiglio.

Thousands of Alberto Tomba's Italian fans were disappointed and Tomba said that officials should at least have started the ilalom, to see how the course held up. Local people responsible for preparing the piste said it was fit for

FOOTBALL

Barnsley to stand by player who took drugs

BARNSLEY are expected to stand by Dean Jones after their young defender was yesterday suspended for three months by the Football Association for failing a drugs test. John Dennis, the Barnsley chairman, and Danny Wilson, the manager, are unlikely to follow the lead taken by several other clubs who have dismissed players found guilty of similar offences.

Jones, 20, tested positive for amphetamines at Barnsley's training ground in October. He is the first player in the FA Carling Premiership to fail a drugs test and pleaded guilty to the offence at an hour-long hearing in London.

He claimed he took the substance at a nightclub on October 26 to keep him awake.



Jones: failed test

not to enhance his performance. Dennis will meet Wilson to discuss the future of Jones, who has yet to break into the first team and whose suspension will run until February next year.

A year ago, Leyton Orient released Roger Stanislaus, the defender, after he had been handed a one-year ban by the FA after being found guilty of using cocaine, a performanceenhancing drug. Craig Whit-ington, the Huddersfield Town striker, was also dismissed by his club after he became the first English player to test positive for banned substances (cannabis) on two occasions.

Earlier this month. Jamie Stuart, Charlton Athletic's former England Under-21 defender, was released after testing positive for cocaine and

NEWCASTLE United yesterday unveiled

a £42 million plan to add 14,000 new seats

to St James' Park - conceding that their

controversial scheme to move to a

purpose-built stadium at Castle Leazes

It is hoped that building work will be

finished in time for the 2000-2001 season.

taking the capacity to 51,000. Nearly half

of the new seats will be "premium seats",

boosting corporate entertainment facili-

£15 million of extra revenue each year.

park is now essentially dead.

marijuana. "We take a very serious view of this sort of thing," Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said yesterday. Michael Spink, the Barnsley secretary, said: "The player is full of remorse and until now has been a model professional.

John McDermott, the former Watford youth develop-ment officer, has been appointed England's first national football development of-ficer. McDermott, 30, will be responsible for implementing the FA's small-sided game initiative for under-tens as well as the new Chartermark recommendations for schools. iunior clubs and coaching

His work will also mean taking charge of the FA's new protection initiative, designed to ensure there is no breach of trust between coaches and teachers and their players. Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director, views it as an essential first move towards improving the long-term standing of English

"Appointing John to this job is absolutely fundamental," Wilkinson, the former Leeds United manager, said. "His job, particularly with small-sided football for youngsters. will play a massive part in changing the course of football in this country for the better. There is no more influential area than the youngest players, the grass roots of the game, and that is where John and his team will be

Tom Pendry, MP was yesterday appointed chairman designate of the Football Trust and will take up the post early in the new year when Lord Aberdare, the present chairman, retires after 19 years. Pendry was the founding chairman of the influential All-Party Football Group in 1982 and served in the role for ten years before becoming the Shadow Minister for Sport and Tourism, a position he held until the general

Lord Aberdare has been chairman of the Trust since its inception in 1979.

Norwich cooking, page 5



Northern Ireland give Royle time to consider

JOE ROYLE, the former Oldham and Everton manager, will tell the Irish Football Association (IFA) next month if he wants to become Northern Ireland's new manager. Royle has been interviewed by Jim Boyce, the IFA presi-

dent, who said yesterday: "We had an excellent meeting and I was very impressed. I'm going away on a week's holiday over Christmas and Joe has said he will ring me early in the new year to let me know if he still wants his name to frame.

"But I intend to speak to other people, which Joe is fully aware of, and the internation-

al committee will make the final appointment."

Boyce claimed the IFA was still in no hurry to appoint a new manager, even though it is two months since it sacked Bryan Hamilton. "There is no

Our next match is not until March 25, against Colombia at Windsor Park, and even that is not 100 per cent certain. I'm just determined to get the best man for Northern Ireland."

Mickael Madar, a 29-year old striker with the Spanish club Deportivo La Coruña, is expected to join Everton later

"We have been told by Deportivo that all the documents are in the post," Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, who is desperate for a regular goalscorer, said yesterday. Obviously he will need a medical, and then we will take it from there."

Madar has just regained his place in Deportivo's first team after recovering from a broken leg. He was included in the France squad for the 1996 European championship.

Even if the transfer does proceed smoothly, he will not be cleared in time to play in Everton's match against Manchester United on Boxing Day. His debut seems more likely to be against Bolton Wanderers next Sunday, a game vital to both clubs in their efforts to retain their Premiership status.

Derby County are forming a Carlisle connection, but deny that the Nationwide League second division side will become a feeder club for the Premiership team.

Carlisle have Nick Wright, of Derby, on loan and the Derby manager, Jim Smith, plans to bring Matt Jansen from Carlisle to Pride Park early in the new year for a

week's training.
"We're having discussions with Carlisle and are forging a relationship with them, but it's an informal one," Smith said.

Swettenham (Carmons) and A Leach (Team Quest) all same time.

Sweitenham (Carrons) and A Leach (Team Ouest) et same time.

CYCLO-CROSS: Beeston RC (Bizmone Pais, Notingham, 10 miles): 1, D Bulver (Team G1) 49-30; 2, T Gould (Schwinn-Toyota) at 295 Royal Dean Forest CC (Coleford, Gioucestershre, 10 miles): 1, S Knight (Paugeot 405) 1,04:14; 2, G Richardson (Sports Ceachmail at 542 East Grinsland CC (Dears Leap Park, 11 miles): 1, R Young (Sumon and Coyodon Othosal Caub) 52-01; 2, B Curits (Comdon) at 243, 3, S Bayless (Sutton and Coyodon CO) at 257. MTS Cycle Spoot (Bearpark, Durham, 11 miles): 1, D Howard (Cloveland MBC) 52-00; 2, R Noble (Deventacide CC) at 90-sex; 3, J Stow (GA Cycles) at 55-sec. Monstay St Joseph's CRT (Boggart Hole Cough, Menchester (B Monstay): 1, D103; 2, M Ette (Wom Ette HT) or 129; 3, P Whatmough (ABC Cartradile) at 388. Without Wheelers (Strodon, near Grapham, 11 miles): 1, D Barnett (Bisepark-Releigh): 1,00-34; 2, C Thompson (Etm. Cycles) at 51; 3, S Barno (C Lincoln) at 227 Sovertry Bridge CC (Friendle) (Brackott) (Brac

Fifa cashing in while clubs pay high price

hey say that men halbucinate in the desert and Ronaldo and Terry Venables spent some of Sunday night probably doing just that. Ronaldo, the finest goalscorer in the world, made his excuses of tiredness; of overplay, of a shoulder injury before the Confederations Cup final in Saudi Arabia then scored three goals. made another two, and seemed to frolic through the 6-0 thrashing of Australia.

It is a spurious tourna-ment, the brainchild of Fifa. football's world governing body, to fill a couple of midwinter weeks with the millions that King Fahd is willing to put up.

But Venables, who may be on his way from Australia to coach South Africa in the World Cup, at least found reality in the \$568 million stadium in Riyadh. He learnt that Brazil may let you draw 0-0 in the early rounds, but bring on the final and Messrs Ronaldo and Ro-mario will each help themselves to hat-tricks.

Australia are rank novices at the international game and Brazil decided to demonstrate it. Australia had a man sent off, Mark Viduka, midway through the first half for fouling Cafu. This is not the done thing against the world champions and rather than kick the joy out of Ronaldo and Romario, it possibly inspired them.

No less than four of the six goals dispatched past Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa and Australia goalkeeper, were delightfully brought down on the chest and then either half-volleyed or allowed to hit the turf before being swept imperiously into the

But what was Ronaldo's beef? He was playing his 75th competitive game of the year. Mario Zagallo, his national team coach, had prefaced the semi-final, never mind the final, by suggesting that he might rest him.
"He's very tired, stressed."
the coach said. "Both in his legs and in his head. On the field, his thoughts are else-where. A Ronaldo like this is no good to Brazil, above all

no good to himself."

And the 2 year old himself? "Time is the one thing I don't have." Ronaldo said. "I thought of asking Santa Claus for more of it, but I



Overseas View

know even he can't help me here." He means time for his family, time to relax, time to see the world capitals that he visits. He certainly does not lack the ability to create time and space in penalty boxes. It is Fifa that, shamelessly,

milks his talent for its profits. Sepp Blatter, the general secretary, had the gall to say on the eve of this tournament that countries such as Spain and England should reduce their premier leagues to 16 clubs - all the better to allow Fifa to impose more tournaments and more travel on the world's talents. Consequently, of course, the European clubs that pay the players' wages are suffering. In Italy on Sunday, Internazionale lost their un-

beaten record this season, losing I-0 to a last-minute goal away to Udinese. Inter remain top of Serie A, but by a reduced margin; they lacked a goalscorer. And elsewhere, not least at

Old Trafford last week, where Villa's reserve goalkeeper, Michael Oakes, was beaten through his legs for Manchester United's winner by Ryan Giggs, the folly of Fifa is making the clubs pay dearly. At least in the Bernabéu on Sunday. Real Madrid eked out a win. courtesy of two goals from Davor Suker, and so made light of the absence of their Brazilian, Roberto Carlos.

Brazil, by capitalising on a tournament where the king's ransom to the winner was sansom to the wines was \$1.5 million (about 1920,000), can be said to be warning in for the World Cup. Do not be surprised if the clubs are also warming up with claims of compensation for their burnt-out stars.



RUGBY LEAGUE

St Helens pay record fee for Sculthorpe

ST HELENS will today unveil Paul Sculthorpe as the most expensive forward in the British game. They have completed a £350,000 deal with Warrington for the 20year-old Great Britain player. with David Howes, the chief executive, saying: There are just a few loose ends to tie up."

Chris Morley. St Helens' £70,000-rated Wales forward, will move to Warrington as part of the deal, with St Helens having to find a further £280,000. Ellery Hanley, the Great

Britain loose-forward, was previously the most expensive forward, having cost Leeds £250,000 when he moved from Wigan in Joey Hayes, the St Helens

wing, was lined up to join Morley in the transfer, but failed to agree terms with Warrington.

The Knowsley Road club are still in profit in closedseason transfer activity, having received £350,000 from Hull for Alan Hunte, Simon Booth and Steve Prescott. plus a further £50,000 from

Huddersfield for Danny

For Morley, 24, the older brother of Adrian, the Leeds and Great Britain back row forward, it will be almost a homecoming, for he joined St Helens from the Warrington amateur club, Woolston, six years ago.

St Helens held off competition from Wigan to secure the prized signature of Sculthorpe, who collected the last of his eight Great Britain caps against Australia in November. Wigan were the first dub to make an offer for one of the most exciting players in the Britgame. London, Leeds and Bradford were also in-

Leeds Rhinos are allowing nine squad players to switch on loan to Bramley, the second division club. All nine - including David and Anthony Gibbons, who spent last season on loan with Keighley Cougars - will join the Rhinos' Yorkshire neighbours in time for the centenary challenge match against Hunslet at Headingley on Sunday.

ties. The redevelopment should bring in Sir Terence Harrison, Newcastle's chairman, said the company had not withdrawn its application for planning permission for the £65 million Castle

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NEA) Ceve-land 108 Utah 101 Boston 99 LA Clopers 77, Vencouver 88 Portland 86

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BOWLS

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CRICKET

First one-day international

India v Sri Lanka

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Lendon Towers
Tharnes Valley
Shetheld
Marchester
Leopards
Newcastle
Chester
Leocater
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County
Count

match

original application is taking forever. Given all the local opposition, we thought it best to have an alternative plan." Newcastle hope that the city council will approve the St James' Park plan in

Leazes plan. However, he said: "The

£42m expansion for St James' Park

time for work to begin at the end of this season. This assumes that the plan will not have to go to a public inquiry.

The club is planning an extra tier on to the Milburn Stand, the North West Corner and the Sir John Hall Stand. By building behind the stands and reaching over the top. Newcastle hope to complete the work without cutting the capacity of St

S C Garguly 5 Vaac .

Total (3wkts, 37.5 overs)

Man-of-match, R Snoth (India)

Tour match

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FALL OF WICKETS, 1-16, 2-26, 3-94
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South Africa Schools Colts

v England Under-19

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BCW193 Van Wyk 9-0-57-1; Ngam 9-0-41-2, Script (3-1-45-4, Pelensen 10-1-52-3, do Nobrega 10-3-39-0 Makajima 2-0-10-0

SOUTH AFRICA SCHOOLS COLTS

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James' in the process. Jo Davies, the club's finance director, said the redevelopment will be financed without having to raise more money from shareholders or cutting the amount available to Kenny Dalglish, the manager, to develop his squad. "We have a strong cash flow and should be able to raise any more money we need through the debt markets," she

The City was encouraged by the plans.

The lans are pleased the club is staying at St James' Park and the long-term benefits should feed through to the share price." Vinay Bedi, an analyst at Wise Speak, the Newcastle-based stockbrokers,

FOR THE RECORD

BOWLING Grove 9-1-55-1: Franks 10-2-37-0; Haywood 7-2-18-1: Schofield 10-3-27-2: Swann 7-0-20: Fowell 7-0-40-3 Umpres: E Scholtz and D O'Reilly BAISBANE: Tour match (final day of tour) South Aincane 458-9 dec and 230-7 dec (D J Culknan 89); Australie A 330 and 122-1 (M J State 64 not out)

S-state of the day of fourt: In Hobsett Victoria 180-9 dec and 348; Tasmana 130 and 401-3 (D T Historia 205 A) Cox (S) in Adelaide: South Australia 396 and 168 (G Robertson 5-37) v New South Wales 519 and 16-0

NEW DELHI: Women's World Cup: India 81, South Alnca 80. CYCLING

ROAD RACES: Telctenham CC Winter Series (Riingdon, 45 Intorreties): 1, J Streether (Turistali Wheelers); 54.40; 2, D Baker (Welvyn: Wheelers); equet 3, P

EQUESTRIANISM OLYMPIA: International showjumping championships: Fether Curistmas States: 1, Burg a Samardha (B Romp, Holl) Ofeuits 30 Spases: 2 San Patrignano Humphy (F Stootheak, Get 0, 31.14, 3, Missen Carthago 2 (J Lansnk, Holl) 4, 32.71.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL each-oid 7 30 unless stated

NOT-08 7-30 unless stated
DR MARTENS CUP: Second round:
Clevedon v Forest Green
HYMAN LENGUE: Full Members Cup:
Second round Beangstoine v Krigstoner;
Rocetsen Wood v Aviesbors, Hampston v
Maccethead Hendon v St Alberg, Asso-ciate Members Trophy: Second round:
Lenes v Horshem Third division: Epsom and Bwell v Aviety
AVDN INSURANCE COMBINATION: Fest division: Postponed: Liston v West Ham. division: Postponect Laton v West Ham. PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Cupt Group four: Stockport v Chasterfield (at H)de United

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-visions Andoner v AFC Newbury. PRESS AND JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE Fort William to Forte Mechanics Fraesdrugh v Bucke Thatle (B.D.: Lossemouth v Huntly (7 45).

OTHER SPORT ICE HOCKEY: Superineque: Newceste Cobes v Notinghem Parthets (7.0): Brashvall Bees v Manchaster Storm (8.0). Exprese Cup: Resingatoles Bason v Cardist Devise (7.30) Christmas Eve Str. Berr. Equal 1, Domins III (W.Meilger, Serz.) and Lionel (R. Hoelsstra, CB) Olautin; 3, Carat II (J-M. Micolas, Fr.) Chaterina Hamper; 1, Oally (P.Charles, &e). 41.98; 2, Flamska (O.Lempsrd, GS) 43.15; NPS Balleys Horse Featts, Ridden Mountain and Moortend Champton; H. E. Prescott's Flamnoch of Trathow, Reserver. Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Subskite's Degravate Jason;

POOTBALL SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Humberside 6 Not-trightmahire 1. Under-16: Humberside 0 Notinghamahire 2: Hampshire 3 Dosset 2 Sunday's lete results ITALIAN LEAGUE AC Milan O Bologne O

RECORD.

ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Valoz Sarafield 4
Girmana y Engrima 1: Newel's Citil Boys 1
Racing Club 1: Independente 2 FerrosentCeste 0: Girmania de Jujuy 2 Roserio
Central 3: Colon 2 Lerus 1: Argentinos
Jinico 1 River Plata 1. Platenar 2 Girmania
y Tiro 1: Boca Junicos 4 Unior 0. San
Lorento v Huracan (malch ebendoned after
22mn) HOCKEY

MDOSPANINSTEP: Michands indoor club champlorathe: Prey-offer Knates 3 Barlord Tiglers 8; Barlord Tiglers 8 Harborne 2; Harborne 5 Sousport 8; Khales 6 Stoupport 4; Harborne 13 Knates 2; Barlord Tiglers 8

quality for preferminary rounds of EHA Indoor Cup).

LARKHELL: West Indoor club champ-lonahip: Searl-finats: West Wits 5 Isca 8, Royal Artillery 2 Barh Buccarrear 2 (Barh won 2-1 on pers). Final: Isca 6 Barh Buccarrears 3 (Bos and Barh quality for prefirminary round of EHA Indoor Club).

ALDENHAM SCHOOL: East Super Indoor Lague: Final positions: 1. Old Loughtoniars 18pts; 2, St Albara 11; 3, Cheimsford 11; 4, Dunton Engineering 10; 5, Blusharts 4; 6, Spaiding 4; 7, Ipsavich 1 MEN'S SCOTTISM NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE: Finat division: Menzieshill 5, Wanderras 7: Weather 2 MM 7; Grange 9 Investalish 5: Cyclesdale 9 Gordoniars : Wanderras 6 Western 5; MM 4 Mencieshill 6; Investalish 1 Clydesdale 5; Gordonians 5 Grange 8.

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REAL TENNIS

LORD'S: World title: First eliminator: J Snow (GB) beet C Bray (GB) 6-2. SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Third legs Frementie to Sydney. Final positions: 1, EF Language (Swe) Intehed at 14.39GMT; 2, Swedish Mazer (Swe) 14.44; 3, Cheste Reiong (15) 14.45; 4, Meril Cup (Monaco) 14.47; 5, Innovation Kvasmer (Nor) 14.49; 6, Toshiba (US) 15.00; 7, Sik Cut (GB) 15.06; 8, BruneSurrergy (Holl) 15.30; 9, EF Education (Swe) 18.17. Overall positions: 1, EF Language 302;st; 2; Innovation Kvasmer 207; 3, Swedish March 253; 4, Meril Cup 228; 5, Cressie Racing 213; 8, Sik Cut 208, 7, Toethba 207; 8, FF Education 90; 9 BrunelSurrergy 68.

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EF Language confirms increasing dominance and looks likely overall winner

Cayard more than a match in tight finish

SAILING CORRESPONDENT

NEVER before have so many boats finished a Whitbread Round the World Race leg in such a tight order as last night when Paul Cayard, on EF Language, led a charge for the line off the Sydney Opera House to win his second leg in three starts and confirm his increasing dominance in this race.

After an agonisingly close nineday contest from Fremande, the first five boats finished the 2,250 mile course in the space of just ten minutes. Swedish Match, the second leg winner skippered by Gunnar Krantz, who was overtaken by Cayard within a few miles of the finish, was second, five minutes behind the Swedish boat. Then came George Collins on Chessie Racing a minute later, Grant Dalton on Merit Cup a further two minutes back and Knut Frostad on Innovation Kvaerner after another

While Cayard was able to celebrate a potentially race-winning lead, Great Britain's Lawrie Smith and his young crew on Silk Cut were coming to terms with what appears to be a mortal blow to their hopes of taking overall honours, or

even a place in the top three.

Going into the last 12 hours of the leg, Smith was third as the yachts roared up the New South Wales coast, driven by a strong southwesterly breeze. According to Smith. they blew a spinnaker and also picked a course too close to the shore, finding themselves slipping

backthrough the fleet.

If they had finished third, the Silk Cut team would have been fourth overall in Sydney and just 40 points behind Cayard. But the points system, which has given Smith comfort for his two fourth places, dealt the Lymington-based skipper a cruel hand. Finishing the leg in seventh position, 26 minutes behind Cayard, has dropped him to sixth overall, a full 98 points behind the Californian.

"I suppose I am more upset than Grant [Dalton]," a deflated Smith said. "It was a very close leg and Silk Cut, Toshiba and Chessie in the north were looking very good at times. We got into third place and were a little bit unlucky that the wind came in from behind. In the last 100 miles we screwed up, breaking a sail, and we were too close inshore. When the boats are



EF Language sails into Sydney harbour to give Paul Cayard, the skipper, his second win in three legs after a thrilling race in which only ten minutes separated five boats

close and you are a little off the pace. you come seventh, not third." Given the pre-race form guide, it is hard to believe that Smith is already so far down the pack after just a third of the nine legs. It must be particularly galling for him that Cayard, in a boat Smith prepared before he abandoned Team EF, is now sweeping all before him.

Cayard, meanwhile, was delighted to emerge again at the front after

a difficult leg when he and his navigator, Mark Rudiger, were rarely out of the top three. "It's a nice spot to be in here, one-third of the way through," he said. "I think the guys are doing real good. We're all really into the short-term, inten-

leg for that." Cayard added that he believes his boat is a good performer in a variety of conditions and had benefited

sity-type sailing and it was a good

from Smith's input. "He picked it." Cayard noted.

Dalton arrived relieved not to be in Smith's shoes but realistic about his chances in the remainder of the race. The Auckland-based skipper has become convinced that his boat is slow by about 0.3knots in moderate upwind conditions and is beginning to think he chose the wrong hull of the two designed for him by

Dalton is now fourth overall. 74 points behind Cayard, but admits catching him will be difficult. "I've always felt we'd get the measure of Kvaerner and Swedish Match, but beating EF Language is going be hard," he said.

Dalton is impressed by the overall standard in this small, high-quality fleet. The girls [EF Education] are sailing really well. If they were in the last race they would have won it

on this form," he said. Among other disapppointed skippers will have been Britain's Paul Standbridge, seventh overall in Toshiba, who had his crew well up in the running for much of the leg, only to see it all go wrong towards the end, again partly as a result of blowing a spinnaker and getting too close to the shore on the run up the coast.

Standings, page 36

SWIMMING

Smith out of world title race

BY CRAIG LORD

MICHELLE SMITH, the triple Olympic champion, has withdrawn from the world championships in Perth, Australia, next month because she has not recovered completely from a whiplash injury sus-tained in a car crash last October.

Smith, 28, whose spectacular improvement at a late stage in a long career made her the most controversial figure of the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, said yesterday that the accident, in County Carlow on Hallowe'en had ruined her preparation.

The decision to miss the world championships, from January 8 to 18, was taken after a disappointing performance in Bordeaux, France,

Smith, who now competes underher married name of De Bruin, said the decision had been "pure heartache" for her. "Since Atlanta, these championships (Perth) have been my main focus - but the injuries I received at the end of October have put paid to that dream." she said. "My training has been severely curtailed since then and this weekend's tournament in Bordeaux made it clear how badly that has

affected me." Smith won the 200 metres and 400 metres medley and 400 metres freestyle in Atlanta and was third in the 200 metres butterfly. In Bordeaux last weekend, she swam the 200 merres medley in 2min Zosec, about 13sec slower than her Olympic-winning time.

There have been serious doubts about Smith's ability to repeat her Atlanta achievements after poor performances at the European championships in Spain in

Wu Yanyan and Chen Yan, of China, last month broke the 200 metres and 400 metres world medley records, respectively swimming 4sec and 5sec faster than Smith's best efforts in Atlanta. Having taken 17sec off her best time for the 400 metres medley in little more than two seasons, Smith would be hard pressed to find much more.

However, Smith obviously has no thoughts of retiring. She confirmed yesterday her intention to defend her Olympic titles in Sydney in 2000.

RUGBY UNION: LEADING CLUBS HAMSTRUNG BY LACK OF SPECTATOR CAPACITY AT TRADITIONAL HOMES

Enhanced facilities vital to secure Bath's future

David Hands, rugby correspondent, says there is big money to be made in Europe but most British sides are handicapped

been more stark: 27,000 Frenchmen crammed the Stade de Toulouse on Sunday to watch the local club battle with Brive for a place in the Heineken Cup final whereas, 24 hours earlier, 8,500 had been shoehorned into the Bath Recreation Ground — many of them with an indifferent view - to watch Bath's semifinal with Pau.

There is a tournament of immense potential waiting to be unleashed within European rugby but only in France are they uniformly equipped to cope with it. The municipal stadiums common to French towns, which host a wide range of sports, make most of the grounds where rugby is accommodated in England

look threadbare. Only Leicester, and those clubs which have done a deal with football clubs, stand comparison and the situation in the other three home

unions is even worse. Rugby, within a very limited parameter, has the capability of producing crowds which would go a long way

THE contrast could not have towards making a profession-been more stark: 27,000 al game sustainable. But very few of the clubs concerned have the necessary number of seats available.

> Bath's situation is particularly poignant. More than any other club they have dominated the English scene, but at a venue which they are not allowed to develop beyond its present capacity, and this in a season where they play in the European final for the first

Tony Swift, the former Eng-land wing who is now their chief executive, paints a grim picture of what could happen if Bath are not allowed to grow. He perceives four options: development of the Recreation Ground, which would affect the playing of cricket, hockey, lacrosse, croquet and tennis; development of an alternative stadium within the city; removal to a site outside Bath; or decline to third or fourth-division status.

Yet this is a situation with which Bath have wrestled for years, and are still no nearer a solution. "We can't afford to wait another five or six years. the game is moving forward too quickly for that," Swift said. The thing that nags at me is not knowing where we are going, because it means we can't manage effectively.

My job is to look at the



commercial viability of the club and to tell the shareholders, in particular Andrew Brownsword, the owner, where we stand. But I don't know whether, in the next few years. I'm looking at improve-

Operation rules Loader out for season CHRISTIAN LOADER, the Swansea and Kingsholm on Saturday when he plays for Gloucester against Richmond in the Allied

Wales prop, is to have a neck operation this week that will rule him out for the rest of the season. Loader, 24 and capped 19 times, was injured playing against New Zealand last month. He also had to return home early from the tour of North America last summer, but there is no long-term threat to his career. Brian Johnson, the Newbury wing, has the chance to clinch a permanent move to Dunbar Premiership. Johnson, 25, the Army captain, is on loan to the club, who want to sign him on a full-time basis.

He replaces the injured Raphael Saint-Andre against Richmond, Philippe Saint-Andre is also out with a thigh injury sustained while leading France against South Africa, but Dave Sims returns to the Gloucester second row.

the past 15 years, but it runs to millions of pounds a year, if the money spent by visitors, the free advertising, and branding is taken into account. Much of that has to do with the Rec's city-centre location but, for all the improve-

ments to the Rec. moving

outside the city or what. If we knew we had a future at a

decent stadium in Bath, we

would be able to get on with

development schemes in

schools and the community as

a whole which, at present, we

It is impossible to quantify

what Bath's success has

meant to trade in the city over

ments made over the last five years, the ground remains quaint by comparison with the facilities of leading French The reason I'm raising the

issue now is not as some form of blackmail but because we do need to find an answer," Swift said. "We need to sit down with the council and find out where we stand."

There has been discussion of development on derelict ground within the city, which would be a costly exercise, or the removal to a football stadium - the nearest being in Bristol or Swindon. "Every bone in my body

would react against taking this club away from the city of Bath," Swift said. "But ultimately the club employs a lot of people, 80 or 90 players, coaches and administrative staff, and I have to protect their position."

It is of considerable concern, also, that the club has to price as high as it does to come anywhere near viability, in the knowledge that spectators will not always get value for money. Those spectators have been remarkably loyal. Indeed, many made the trip to Brive in October to see Bath beaten 29-12, not knowing that the two clubs would meet again in Bordeaux on January 31 to contest the final.

It will be to Bath's advantage that they have already beaten Brive in their home pool game, by 27-25, so they know them to be fallible but equally they will have admired the huge effort the men of the Correze made to draw Sunday's semi-final in extra time and so beat Toulouse on tries scored - in a stadium which will, next year, be able to hold 36,000.

☐ Saracens are hoping that both Paul Wallace and Philippe Sella will be fit to play Leicester at Vicarage Road on Boxing Day.

EQUESTRIANISM

Charles rules as Dolly takes up challenge

By JENNY MACARTHUR

PETER CHARLES, of Ireland, the former European champion, brought the final afternoon of the Olympia championships to a stirring conclusion yesterday when he and his French-bred mare, Dolly, won the Eurosport Christmas Hamper after a breathtaking round against the clock.

Charles, who adopted Irish nationality in 1992 after being told he had no chance of making Britain's Olympic team, admitted he could not have gone any faster round the ten-fence course. watched Ludger [Beerbaum] and decided he had won enough this week," he said.

Beerbaum, the European champion who relegated Charles to second place in the Volvo World Cup qualifier on Saturday, had the disadvantage of going first on this occasion. His time of 44.27sec was beaten by Rodrigo Pessoa. of Brazil, in 43.52sec on Loro Piana Wanda, and then by Britain's Di Lampard on Flaminka in 43.18sec.

Charles, one of the last to ride, was giving Dolly - a horse more usually associated with grands prix and Nations cups - her first real test in this type of speed class. "Olympia is her last show for two months, so I knew she could have a good rest afterwards, he said.

The versatile mare responded with a gloriously uninhibited display of jumping, turning to the last fence with barely a stride before take-off, to finish in 41.98sec. "I asked her all the questions and she came up with all the answers," Charles said, "but I wouldn't drop her down to this level too often she's too good a horse."

While the British selectors rue a lost talent, the Hampshire-based Charles said he had "not the slightest regret" about his defection to Ireland. Now the mainstay of the Irish team, he has one of the most envied strings in the sport.

In addition to Dolly, it includes seven-year-olds Nustria, whose display of jumping in the Volvo World Cup was one of the highlights of the week, and Carnavelly, who was third in the Paris Grand Prix last month; T'Aime, aged 9, the winner of more than £80,000 this year; and La Ina. the 1995 European champion. who has recovered from a leg injury sustained last summer. 'I wouldn't swap any of them," Charles said.

Earlier, Britain's Rob



Beerbaum: disadvantage

Hoekstra gained his first suc cess at Olympia when he and Lionel, his American-bred former racehorse, were joint winners of the Christmas Eve Six Bar with Willi Melliger, of Switzerland, on Domina Both riders were clear in the fifth and final round when the last fence stood at 6ft 4in.

Melliger, the Olympic silver medal-winner on Calvaro, had never tested Domina over this height. The German-bred mare, aged 9, has had two foals and has only been showjumping for two years. But Domina has courage, as she showed on Sunday when she finished joint third in the Vink Christmas Masters, and yesterday, when the mare, the first to go in the final round. soared effortlessly over the

The Dutch-born Hoekstra, who is based at Speldhurst in Kent, had intended to run Lionel in the Grand Prix yesterday, but, as the horse is not fast against the clock, decided he would have more chance in the Six Bar. "He's a versatile horse with plenty of scope, but he jumps best when going slowly," he said.

That was soon evident Hoekstra had the partisan Olympia crowd gasping in disbelief as he approached the huge line of fences at no more than a hand canter. But Lionel, who jumped seven foot in the puissance events in Madrid and Biarritz this year, skimmed down the line, clearing the last with inches to spare, to loud applause.

CRICKET: FORMER SPINNER PROMOTED AT THE OVAL AS ENGLAND SELECTOR MOVES NORTH IN COACHING ROLE

Durham sign Gooch Medlycott takes over Tendulkar turns the as batting adviser

By Our Sports Staff

GRAHAM GOOCH has been able to secure his services ioined Durham as a consultant and batting coach for next season. Gooch, manager of the England A team that starts a three-month tour of Kenya and Sri Lanka in January, will join the county for pre-season training in early April.

"Helping Durham to develop its team and local talent to be more successful fits in with the aim of improving the England team," the England selector and former captain said. "The success achieved at Essex was based on good youth development policies and I am sure that is the way

forward for Durham." David Boon, the Durham captain, praised Gooch's appointment. The club and team will benefit from Graham's input," he said. "It is excellent that the chub has

on a regular basis." England Under-19 secured the first victory of their tour by

beating South African Schools Colts by 28 runs in a one-day game at Zwide yesterday. Graeme Swann scored 47, including four sixes in one over from the off-spinner, Kevin Petersen, in England's 265 for nine.

Swann was later on the receiving end of some fierce hitting by Dumisa Makalima. who struck him over midwicket for six four times in the fortieth over. India defeated South Africa

by five wickets in Patna vesterday to set up a meeting with Australia in the semi-finals of the women's World Cup. The host nation howled South Africa out for 80 and reached their target in 28 overs.

Surrey first-team role

SURREY announced yester-

day that Keith Medlycott, their second XI coach, will take charge of first-team affairs next season in succession to David Gilbert, who left three months ago to become director of coaching at Sussex. Medlycott, one of several

recent spinners whose careers foundered at the Oval. has been appointed for three years on a full-time basis, which means that he will not go back to Northern Transvaal, the team he coaches in the winter, once he returns to England in late March.

Surrey quickly thought again after Allan Border, the former Australia captain, turned down the club because of other commitments, including coaching the Australia Under-19 team in the Youth World Cup next month:

Vic Dodds, chairman of Surrey's cricket committee, said yesterday: "Keith has had a good grounding for the job. He is Surrey through and through. Several of our boys

made it clear that Keith was the man they wanted. Adam Holioake [the captain] al-ways thought Keith was the right man for the job. The main problem was persuading him to give up his good lifestyle in South Africa." Medlycott, 32, toured the

Caribbean with England eight years ago. His career came to a premature and embarrassing end. though, when he was afflicted by one of the worst known cases of the "yips" and within 18 months had played his last first-team match. Last summer he led Surrey to the second XI one-day trophy.

tables on Sri Lanka

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

INDIA, still smarting from losing their three games in the Champions' Trophy in Sharjah this month, answered their critics yesterday by comfortably accounting for Sri Lanka, the World Cup holders, in the first of a three-match one-day international series. Sachin Tendulkar, the cap-

tain, stroked a delightful 82 not out off 86 balls as India easily overhauled Sri Lanka's modest total of 172 for nine. India won by seven wickets. reaching their target off only 37.5 overs in a match reduced to 45 overs a side after morn-

ing fog in Guwahati, India. Tendulkar, who put on 68 for the third wicket with Navjot Sidhu, scored his 1,000th run in one-day internationals for the season. However, Robin Singh, the allrounder, was named man of

the match after taking five for 22, the best figures of his career. "Recently we've not had a good time," Tendulkar said. "It's very important that we get support and that we stick together as a team." Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri

Lanka captain, said: "We played very badly — we didn't bat well and we didn't bowl or field well."

India had made six changes from Sharjah, with Anil Kumble, the spinner, and the batsman Rahul Dravid among those omitted.

Debasish Mohanty, a medium-pace bowler, dismissed Sanath Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu and Aravinda de Silva as Sri Lanka struggled to 30 for three after being sent in. Only a defiant 68 by Roshan Mahanama enabled them to reach a reasonable total.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: RUNNING BACK'S RECORD ENDS FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK

Sanders seals play-off place

Oliver Holt enjoys the countdown

as final weekend

throws up a thrilling duel

AMERICAN sport has made a fine art of saving the best for last. From buzzer-beaters in the final few frantic seconds of the deciding game of basketball's NBA finals to a home run in the final inning of the World Series in baseball, it has all been done. On Sunday, gridiron came up with the goods, too, when the last weekend of the regular season duly produced its most dramatic game so far.

The Detroit Lions and the New York Jets were playing for high stakes at the Pontiac Silverdome. A place in the play-offs for either team hinged on the result and sentimentalists everywhere were willing on the fairytale ending and hoping that the Jets could complete one of the most spectacular transitions ever seen in the space of 12 months by making it to the

In the end, though, it was a different kind of fairytale that came true in Michigan. This was a home-town story, another mark in those sporting history books in which American statisticians are so fond of scribbling, a record whose worth transcends the weekly craze for establishing new targets of excellence in the National Football League

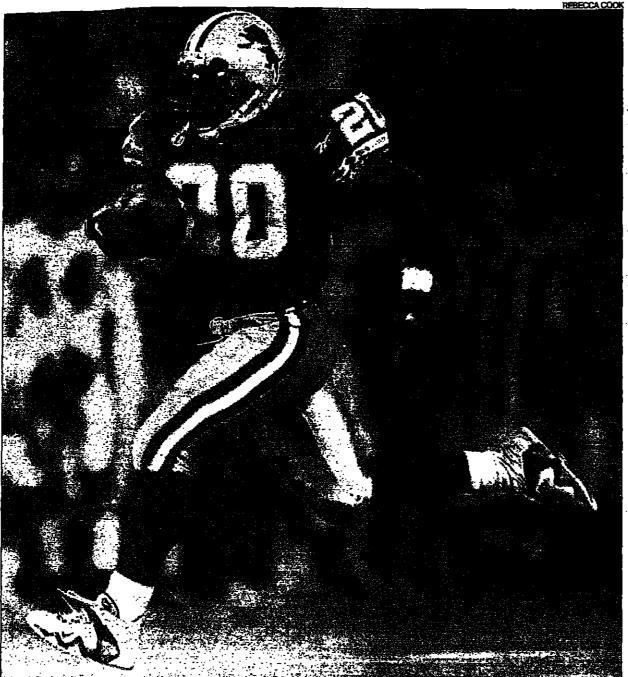
Barry Sanders, the Detroit running back, had started the game needing 131 rushing yards to become only the third player in the history of the sport to run for 2.000 yards in

a regular season.
Only O. J. Simpson. who did it for the Buffalo Bilis in 1973, and Eric Dickerson, of the Los Angeles Rams, who set the record in 1984, had achieved it in the past.

The Jets, who won only one of their 16 games last season and were the laughing stock of the league before their new coach, Bill Parcells, brought about such a startling change. went into an early 10-0 lead and with Sanders stuck on only 23 yards late in the third quarter, it seemed it was going

to be New York's day.
But then Sanders, who is sure to be one of the leading candidates for the NFL Most Valuable Player award, broke free for a 47-yard run and scored with a 15-yard touch down scramble a couple of plays later.

He broke the 2,000-yard barrier with an unspectacular two-yard run up the middle with just two minutes of the game to go and his team hanging on to the 13-10 advantage that was to be the final score. "It's hard to explain



Sanders, the Lions running back, becomes only the third man to break the 2,000-yard barrier in the regular season

what it means to me," Sanders said. "There's gratification. satisfaction, and not just for me but for everybody.

"I'm just lucky I'm the one carrying the ball with some great guys blocking for me. It is a great achievement for all of us and now we just have to

RESULTS: Cincinnati 16 Baltimore 14. Tampa Bay 31 Chicago 15; Minnecota 39 Indicanapolis 28, Nancas Cay 25 New Orders 13: New York Gaints 20 Daltas 7. Washington 35 Philadelphia 32: Tentressee 16 Pritisburgh 6, Anzona 29 Atlanta 26, Jacksonville 20 Cakland 9: Detroit 13 New York Jess 10; Deriver 38 San Diego 3, Seartle 38 San Francisco 9

Not including last right's match. Miami v New England

do what we can in the play-

The victory, though, was their linebacker, Reggie Brown, who was left lying on jarring collision during a tack-

marred for the Lions by a fourth-quarter head injury to the field unconscious after a

The Lions' victory squeezed them into the first round of the play-offs where they will meet the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Florida next Sunday. The Buc-NFL DETAILS cancers, one of the surprise teams of the season, clinched their place in the sun with a 31-15 win over the Chicago Bears that salvaged a season that seemed to be turning sour after a marvellous start.

man said.

The Jets' loss handed wildcard places to the Miami Dolphins and the New Engother late last night at the former Joe Robbie Stadium and will meet again in the play-offs next Sunday. Last night's victors will have secured home-field advantage for next weekend's meeting. The strongest teams in both

the National and American

Football Conferences, the

le. "I think everybody would

give up the game and the 2,000 yards if we could have

Reggie healthy," Jeff Har-dings, a Detroit offensive line-

Kansas City Chiefs respectively, both won convincingly. For the Packers, their victory over the Bills was not enough to wrest home-field advantage throughout the play-offs from the San Francisco 49ers in the NFC. The way the 49ers have been playing recently, though - they lost 38-9 to the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday night the honour may pass to Green Bay sooner rather than later

Green Bay Packers and the

The Chiefs wint over the New Orleans Saints at least ensured they would play all their post-season matches at Arrowhead Stadium and despite the encouraging lateseason form of the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Jacksonville Jaguars, they will be the favourites to join the Packers in the Super Bowl in San Diego on January 25.

The match between the Lions and the Jets, Barry Sanders and all, will take some beating but the NFL is bound to try.

ICE HOCKEY

His wonderful life

TELEVISION CHOICE

BBC2, 6.35pm

To coincide with the current season of his films or BBC and the cinema's rerelease of the much-loved irs a Wonderful Life, a profile of the man himself. legend has it that Stewart once asked a doctor to inject something into his vocal cords to make his famous throaty drawl even throatier for that great Senate scene in Mr Smith Goes to Washington. "But I never believed it," says George C. Scott. one of many Hollywood luminaries paying tribute." he wasn't actor enough to do that what the hell was he doing after 80 pictures?" Jimmy Stewart died in huly, aged 89, and this documentary, shot in his home town of Indiana, highlights the diversity of his roles—from western hero to psychopath to Mr Nice Guy. Clips are interlaced with the memories of co-stars, directors, and members of Stewart's

The Pale Horse TTV, 9.00pm

Oh good. An Agatha Christie for Christmas. Not too much violence, a plot to challenge the little grey cells and — thankfully with this one — no round-ups in the library of stately home guests by impossibly police policemen. That said, this is not vintage Christie — rather more, in trying for a spot of trendiness (it's set in the Swinging Sixties) this is neither fish nor fowl. An amateur production of Macbeth sets the scene for a distinctly odd story Macrem sets the scene for a unsiminary out and about murder by auto-suggestion. Or so it would appear to the plucky hero (Colin Buchanan) who is trying to clear himself of the alleged murder of a priest. Said priest was carrying a list of names who were all about to face death . . . a coven of witches (Jean Marsh, Ruth Madoc and Maggie Shevlin) would seem to have much to answer for . . .

Secret Lives: Versace, the King of Excess Channel 4, 9,30pm

What, when all is said and done in this exotic profile of the great designer, is so secret? We are still no nearer to learning the true identity of Gianni Versace's murderer in Miami last July. Some note that the FBI never followed up one classic clue: the two bullets to the back of the head and the dead bird found near the body are Mafia



Saxophonist Sidney Bechet (BBC2, II.25pm)

trademarks. We also learn that this absurdly rich and flamboyant Italian was under long-term investigations into alleged tax fraud and illicit ownership of state owned antiquities. Where this documentary scores is not in its revelations and/or muckraking but in brilliantly tracing a rags-toriches story: how a gay, sensitive young man from the mean streets of southern Italy became "the first designer superstar" or, as he himself put it, "half royalty, half rock 'n' roll".

Treat It Gentle: Sidney Bechet

BBCZ 11:25pm The arts strand riffs into a hat-trick of goodies for Christmas with a profile of the great jazz clarinettist and saxophonist Sidney Bechet. When Bechet died in 1959 more than 3,000 mourners attended his funeral in Juan-les-Pins. Yet at one time his reputation, along with those of other great pioneers of the New Orleans era, had faded almost from sight When Woody Allen and read read to the new Orleans era, had faded almost from sight When Woody Allen and read read. from sight. When Woody Allen — no mean trad man himself — used Becher's music (with his innovative soprano sax) on the soundtrack of his innovative soprano sax) on the soundtrack of his film Stardust Memories a new generation discovered Bechet. Allen is among those who pay tribute in this terrific celebration of Bechet's birth—100 years ago in the red light district of New Orleans. Other musicians included Wymton Marsalis, Humphrey Lynelton and Claude Luter, with contributions from Bechet's mistress, Jacqueline, and their son. Jacqueline, and their son.

Food for Thought

One of the things I miss about no longer attending One of the things I miss about no longer attending football grounds on a regular basis is the gloriously appalling food available at half-time. There is something deeply suspect about clubs that call in gastronomic geniuses to revise their fast food menus, for surely half the point of attending a football match is to sip hot Bovril and munch through a pie of dubious provenance. Cornish pasties at Plymouth Argyle (the food was better than the football) were my favourite and they turn up in this anthology of football ground food, in which Fergus Sweeney also samples Arbroath kippers and Bluenose burgers. There are rumours that after making the programme Sweeney will that after making the programme Sweeney will spend Christmas wearing a "nil by mouth" sign.

Performance on 3: Paris, City of Light Radio 3. 7.45pm

I take the chance of recommending this live concert. because it promises to be an interesting evocation of Paris, albeit that it evokes Paris only after a long and unsuccessful battle with those who control the Radio 3 budger: therefore the evening evokes Paris but comes from Edinburgh. The Queen's Hall, to be precise, and the music harks back to Paris in the 1920s. Tonight the highlights include out-and-out cabaret numbers by Poulanc and Kurt Weill, plus the work of two of the more distinguished Americans who were in Paris at the time, Cole Porter and George Gershwin. The performers are the singers Kim Criswell and Donald Maxwell, the planist/conductor Wyn Davies, and the Chamber

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RADIO 1

6.30em Chris Moyles 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 3.00pm Dave Pearce 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 John Peal's Seasonal Selection 10.30 Mary Arms Hobbs Live at the Zodiac 1.00am Charlie Jordan 4.00 Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 The Goon Show (r) 3.30 Richard Allinson 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Richard Siègoe's Classical Ges 8.00 Nigel Opden 9.00 The Prohibition Years 9.30 Rabbi Llonel Bue's "Chatzmas" 10.30 Bob Harris 12.05mm Patrick Lunt 3.00 Katrins

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen and Charlotte Smith 8.00 Gary Robertson 12.00 Middley with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Wortcker 7.00 News Edma with Cavid McNeil 7.30 Muscular Prose Tales of the Turi. Richard Griffiths reports on the file and times of Prince Monokulu (f) 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00em Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (MW) Greham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne 4.00 Mark Forrest 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (MW) Caimin Jones 10.00 Lynn Parsons 2.00em Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.00em Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin 9.00 Scott Chleholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Rasbum 9.00 Steve Hamilton 1.00em Andy Wint

6.00em Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelt; O'Brien's First Christmas 7.30 Options 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert Half 9.00 News, News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Artyfacts 9.30 Literature File: The Mill on the Floss 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Civilization 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Health Matters 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Cutionk 2.30 Multitrack Hit List 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Greenfack Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Waveguide 4.30 The World Today; News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 9.00 Newsdesk 6.30 One Planet; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Equipe for Thought 7.30 Negamin 8.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Equipe for Thought 7.30 Negamin 8.00 Newsdesk 9.30 Meridian Live 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 9.30 Meridian Live 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30em The Ferming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.20 Newsdesk 12.30 The World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 1.2 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 One Planet 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30

CLASSIC FM

6.00em Alan Mann News and travel reports, plus Morning March and Breakfest Beroque 9.00 Henry Kelly. Includes carels by the choir of New College, Oddord, Plus The Classic Masterpiece, the half of Farme Hour and and a recipe for Indian Masterpiece, the frail of Fame Hour and and a recipe for Indian spiced turkey 1.00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Bigar (Cello Concerto in E minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newshight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Burning 8.00 Evening Concert. Handel (Nesstath). Performed by Tormry Williams, Irable, Barbara Schilck and Sandrine Pisu, sopranos, Andreas Scholl, alto, Mark Padmore, tenor, Nathen Berg, bess, Les Arts Florissants, under William Christie. 10.00 Michael Mappin. Includes at 11.35 Noctume 2.00em Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Criffiths

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Weather (5pm) Last °C snow Conditions Runs to Piste Off/p resort ANDORRA 5 75 good crusty good (Generally good skiing with most lifts open) faur 1 21/12 AUSTRIA 0 75 hard heavy wom cloud 2 22/12 (Fresh snow but quite wet and heavy) 0 75 good heavy closed cloud 4 22/12 (Snow in good shape on both mountains above 1.600m) Kitzbühel Mayrholer FRANCE 50 140 good vaned good fine -1 20/12 (Very good skiing in all areas except Auris) 70 85 good powder good sun -3 21/12 (Great skiing and snow above 1,800m) 25 40 fair poor art sun -3 20/12 Alpe d'Huez Avonaz 25 40 fair poor art sun -3 20/12 (Rocks poking through on most pastes snow needed) 50 145 good varied good sun -4 21/12 (Soft powder snow on many pistes) Méribel Tignes ITALY 200 good powder good (Excellent sking on all pistes) 140 good powder good (Excellent sking on nearly all runs) fine 0 21/12 Livigno fine -4 21/12 SWITZERLAND Source Ski Club of Great Britain L. lower slopes; U. upper; art - artificial

SNOW REPORTS

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 33

(c) A genus of elimbing plants allied to the vine. (With small initial) a plant of this genus, as one of the various species of Virginia creeper. From the Greek ampelos a vine + opsis appearance. Compton Mackenzie, Sinister Street, 1914: The tea-tray gothic of Balliol, and Trinity with its municipal ampelopsis."

(c) A method of training for middle- and long-distance running, in which the athlete runs over country, mixing fast with slow work. From the Swedish fart speed + lek play, "The essence of a successful fartlek session is enjoyment in hard but varying work."

AMPELOPSIS

(c) A Jamaican name for several plants of the mistletoe family. Loranthaceae. "But what interests me most in this place is a flourishing Misseltoe, or God-bush, as the negroes call it."

(c) A container for liquids. Specifically, a wooden cup, a bottle or canteen for water or wine, or an oil drum or petrol tin. Hence bidonville, a shanty-town built of oil drums or petrol tins. "Get the car filled up. Adèle left me two bidons for emergencies."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Bib! and mate with 2 RdS+ and 3 RhS can only be prevented at ruinous

Storm feel the heat

from Devils BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

MANCHESTER Storm will go into the new year top of the Superleague, but only just. Beaten 7-1 by Cardiff Devils on Sunday, they have won only four of their past nine league games and the fine form they showed in their European

League run is but a memory.

After a goalless first period. the Devils took a 2-0 lead in the second and scored a third goal in the first minute of the final session. The Storm's only goal came a minute later but it was Cardiff all the way from then on with four goals in 11 minutes, the last three while Manchester players were in the penalty box.

Ayr Scottish Eagles are the form team and are unbeaten in their past seven league and cup outings. A three-goal first period was the foundation for a 6-0 defeat of Bracknell Bees. with Rob Dopson saving all 25 shots that came his way for his first shut-out of the season. Mark Montanari was the Eagles' anacking inspiration, assisting on four goals.

The win took the Eagles into second place, a point behind the Storm, with two games in hand. Nottingham Panthers are a point further back in third.

Newcastle Cobras continue to languish in last place and completed another miserable weekend, beaten 4-2 by Shef-field Steelers, their third successive home defeat. The Cobras lost their first five eague games, all away from home; they were expected to improve once they returned home, but that has not been

6,00am On Air, with Stephanie Hughes, Includes
Barber (Violin Concerto); Sibelius (Karelie Sulte);
Poulenc (Quatre Motets pour le Termos de Noel);
Dvohák (Stevonic Dances); Tavener (The Lamb)
9,00 Mornling Collection, with Peter Hobdy, Donizetti
(Sinfonia in 6 minor for solo wind instruments);
Purcell (Welcome to All the Pleasures); Schubert
(Impromptu in F minor); Strauss (Death and
Transfiguration)
10,00 Musicel Encounters, with Nicola Heywood
Thomas, Includes Rubbra (Dorni Jesu); Mozart
(Symphony No 39 in E flatt); John Peterson
(Rituals in Transfigured Time, first broadcast);
Bartok (Concerto for Orchestra); Gunney (Will Go
with my Father A-Ploughing); Beethoven (Plano
Cluintet in E Rat)
12,00 Composers of the Weelc British Light Music
1,00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert, Philip
Dules, viola, Sophia Rahman, piano. Schumann
(Adagio and Allegro in A flatt; Stravinsky (Elegy for
solo viola); Shostakovich (Viola Sonata) (f)
1,55 Nursery Notions: Little Jack Horner. With
readings from Devid Holt and music from Tim
Laycock and George Weignand (2/5)

readings from David Holt and music from Tim Laycock and George Weignand (2/5)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic, under Yan Pascai Torteller, with Artur Pizano, piano. Stravinsky (Suite The Firebird, 1919 version); Grieg (Piano Concerto in A minor); Sibelius (Symphony No 1); Rimsky-Korsakov (Suite Christmas Eve)

4.00 Voices — Biy Kind of Song: Victoria Wood, The singer and comedian tells lain Burnside about har favourite songs and singers (r)

Amazon (4/4)

10.00 (LW) News; Daily Service

10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geotirey Wheeler

10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenn Murray

11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoti Wats

12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Waite

12.25pm Random Edition. Stories from the British Gazetie and Sunday Montor of March 1792 (5/6)

12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Alex Brodie

1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Christmas
Shopping, by Max Hillman. The story of an unlikely romence between two stressed-out shoppers

2.30 Literary Houses: Abbotsford, Iain Burnside visits Sit Walter Scott's house in the Scottish Borders (2/4)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan

3.00 News; The Americon Shark, with Larte crenary
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleldoscope, Paul Vaughan reviews
More Grimm Tales staged at the Young Vic in
London and previews the best programmes on
racio and television over Christmas and New Year

4.45 Short Story: The Happy Prince, by Oscar Wilde

4.45 Turns of the Century: Kenneth Williams (2/4) (r)
5.00 In Repertory. The Times opera critic Rodney
Milnes tables to William White about Gershwin's

Milines tailes to Wilterd White about Gershwin's Porgy and Bess (2/5) (r)
6.00 Schubert Songbook, Gordon Stewart looks at Schubert songs from the singer's point of view and investigates what others thought of him (r)
6.15 in Country Churches, Adrian Jack visits St. James's in Great Packington, Warwickshire (1/5)
7.00 Beethoven: (String Quartet in E fast) performed by the Henschel Quartet Christoph and Markus Henschel, violins, Monika Henschel, violins, Monika Henschel, viola, Mathias Beyer, callo
7.45 Performance on 3: Paris, City of (Light, See

Henschel, violins, Monika Henschel, viola, Mathias Beyer, cello
7.45 Performance on 3: Paris, City of Light. See Choice. Live from the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, Krim Criswell, soprano, Doneld Maxwell, bartione, Gerald Martin Moore, plano, Chember Ensamble under Wyn Devies, plano, Satie (Je te Veux, La Diva de L'Empire): Poulenc (Le Bal Masque); Weill (Three Parisian Songs) 8.25 Brilliant Creatures 8.45 Concert, part two, Poulenc (Chansons Galliardes; Sonata for clarinet and bassoon)
9.30 Postscript: Christmas Day (2/5) (r)
9.45 The BBC Orchestras, BSC Philharmonic, under Yan Pascal Torteller, with Craig Ogden, guitar Milhaud (Le Boeuf sur le Toit); Rodrigo (Conciento de Aranjusz); Bizet (Suite Carmen)
10.45 The Shellac Show. A new series in which Jeremy Nicholas celebrates the age of 78 rpm records
11.30 Composer of the Weelc Prokoflev (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald MacLeod

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Faming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.45 The Nation's Favourite Poems 8.58 Weather 5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Stx O'Clock News 9.00 News 9.05 Call Jeremy Harris
10.00 (FM) News; And Here's the Tape to Prove It.
The naturalist Nick Baker encounters the pink-toed tarantules and man-eating prantias of the Amazon (4/4)

6.00 Stx tr-Copex number
6.30 North East of Eden, by Peter Kerry. The annual lestival of St Marcus brings a corvoy of tourists to Paradise Island. With Joan Sims and Rebecca Francise island. Will Joen only and nedecca Front (4/6) (1) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Toy Stories. Jeremy Hardy Investigates the prospects for the more traditional toys and games in the face of ever increasing demand for high-

tech gadgetry 8.00 Science Now. A look at the latest scientific

8.00 Science Now. A look at the larest scientific developments and discoveries with Peter Evans (r) 8.30 The Network. In the last of the series Alun Laws and guasts contemplate the technological future. How will we work and play in the 21st century and

How will we work and play in the 21st century and beyond?

9.00 in Touch. Presented by Peter White

9.30 Kalekdoscope (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

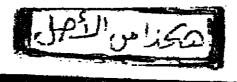
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Prayback, by Raymond Chandler, abridged by Robert Dodds, and read by Angus Macinnes (2/10) (r)

11.00 Mediumwave. The week's events in the media (r)

11.30 Sentimental Journey, lan Fisiop returns to Hong Kong for the first time since his childhood (6/6) (r)

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Christmas at the End of the Road, Written and read by Tom Booket (2/5)

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-7. 94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 683, 908. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5-55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. YIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson. Inc. 1. Gregory and John McNamara.



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SKY BOX OFFICE

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) The Glimmer Man (1995) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Jungle All the Way (1995)

SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transport SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00m Balle (1985) (49830) 8.06 Things Change. (1985) (96894) 10.00 Captive Hearls (1987) (79675) 12.00 Fether of the Bride Part II (1988) (7/2/17) 2.00 pm The Securat of Hearls (1982) (67/97) 3.30 Ballo (1985) (5852) 5.00 By Bally (1995) (4768) 7.00 Fether of the Bride Part II (1995) (14823) 9.00 The People Next Door (1986) (1989) (1989) 10.30 The Lawrencher Man 2 Beyond Cyberspecie (1989) (87693-16) 12.10 cm First Light (1982) (876291) 1.55 (900468 Co fo Cologo (1989) (834347) 3.30 The 1988 (1986) (475871)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

There must be a generation of treats a lamppost, was clearly subjects; and there are only so meant to be ironic. Wasn't it? It felt many of these we can stomach. like the televisual equivalent of most famous not for the Beatles Magritte's surrealist painting of a pipe under which are written the words "Ceci n'est pas une pipe".

Of course, the Adelphi will give you anything you want, as long as it's not polite service, a vegetarian meal or the benefit of the doubt. Running a hotel is a military operation, but the Adelphi has gone one step further and decided to treat its guests like the enemy.

"He's just a nuisance," said the I'm taking no-nonsense from you lady at reception to the television cameras, after we had witnessed a guest asking if he might be moved to a more congenial room. No, he couldn't, she told him blundy.

One problem with Hotel is that it has done what it set out to do pretty well. Look at its ratings. The trouble is that its success will now treats its guests the way a dog seek out their own "docu-soap"

And there are only so many "TV stars" that can be manufactured overnight from programmes about driving schools and hotels.

Searching for a promo to punctuate its Christmas broadcasts, the BBC has doctored a version of its brilliant Perfect Day musical collage, adding a wintry park backdrop and snow-covered trees. Next month we'll see a promo in which the Dalai Lama hums the World Service tune, Lillibullero.

But it can only be a matter of time before the "stars" that tele-vision channels choose to plug their promos will be people such as the Adelphi's general manager, Elleen Downey, or travel reps in Spain, or Dover port officials, or trouble is that its success will now other docu-soap faces: it's quite entice other programme-makers to probable that, with more than eight million viewers tuning in to



And stars appeared out of the North West



Joseph

Joe

Hotel, Downey and Smith are more recognisable to many view-ers than the Dalai Lama.

They have certainly become stars in their own small way. Brian Birchall — the Adelphi's banquet-ing manager whose weekly shout-ing match with the chef David Smith was beginning to look as staged as a wrestling bout - says he is accosted on the streets of Liverpool by well-meaning passers-by with the phrase "Just cewk, will ya!" — a command he hurled at chef a few weeks ago. At the end of last night's programme, as we were being brought up to date on what has happened to the "players" since the cameras stopped rolling, we learnt that Christine, the receptionist, finally had her baby and that hard-working Brian has been promoted to deputy manager. What this means for his pay packet I don't know, But presumably it guarantees him above-the-title billing if a second series does go ahead.

Instead of trying to make stars out of learner drivers, Stella Street (BBC2) has approached fake celebrity from a different angle and created a surreal street in Surbiton, inhabited by some of Hollywood's biggest names. Michael Caine, Jack Nicholson, Joe Pesci. Al Pacino worries about the price of chicken fillets at Asda. David Bowie lives at No 2, Dirk Bogarde at No 56. Mick Jagger and Keith Richard run the corner shop, with Mick always wortying if the cling peaches have passed their sell-by date. Oh yes, Jimmy Hill's there. And Mrs Huggett, cleaning lady to the stars. It is hard to tell whether this ten-part, ten-minute suburban soap will prove to be an historic gem or whether it will turn out to have shorter legs than a cobra, but I am veering towards the historic television gem. It's all so deliciously preposterous.

bviously, it's hard to get Hollywood stars to act in Brookside or Eastenders, so Caine, Nicholson, et al, are played here by impressionists Phil Cornwell and John Sessions, and directed by Peter Richardson: a case of "Celui-ci n'est pas Michael Caine". It's fake, but no more fake than making stars out of real-life

hotel receptionists.

Comwell's Caine is pure Alfie.

After seeing Jack Nicholson run indoors with yet another blonde. Caine looks into the camera and says: "Dirty little monkey, inne! He's like a rat up a drainpipe. Still, he makes a nice apple crumble." Later, spotting Joe Pesci digging a large, grave-size hole in his back garden, Caine inquires: "Oi. Joe. Watchoo got there? Is that a bitta mukh?" When Pesci answers: What the *** s mulch?", Michael explains, in a neighbourly way: "Mulch is something that you put underneath to bed in your roses and other 'ardy plants."

Pesci gets angry very, very quickly during games of Monopo-ly, when his neighbours refuse to let him build whorehouses instead of hotels on Vine Street. "He has a tendency towards psychotic violence," stammers Jimmy Hill. "And, you know, that scares me, I must say." Frankly, anything that wipes the smile off Jimmy Hill's face gets my vote.

young people growing up believing that Liverpool is

but for the Adelphi hotel, its bossy

manageress and its foul-mouthed,

vegetarian-hating cook (or cewk as

we must call him). So to show that

they have a cute sense of irony, the

producers of Hotel (BBCI) mar-

ried these two great Liverpudlian

icons last night by giving us a glimpse of the annual Beatles

convention that takes over the Adelphi for one weekend a year.

It was clearly the producers' little joke to end their stay at the

Adelphi with lookalike McCart-

neys and Lennons singing verses such as: If there's anything that

you want/If there's anything I can

do/Just call on me, and I'll send it.

along/With love from me to you.

The juxtaposition of this music

floating through a hotel which -

at least from what we have seen -

6.00am Business Breakfast (55743) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (50101) 9.00 Thint's Entertainment Part II (1976, b/w)
Fred Astate and Gene Keily Introduce a
compilation of MGM musical and comedy highlights (T) (31588)

11.00 A Christings Story (1983) Family comedy following a young boy as he grows up in suburban Indiana in the 1940s. Peter Billingsley stars (32859)

12.30pm Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook EastEnders: Wendy Richard and Todd Carty join chess Ainsley Harriott and Tony Tobin (r) (T) (20385) 1.00 News (1) and weather (60588) 1.30 Regional News (17017526) 1.40 The Weather Show (86911385)

1.45 Neighbours (T) (72330859) 2.05 Petrocelli (r) (8586526) 3.00 Vets in Practice (r) (T) (8453) 3.30 Playdays (7374694) 3.50 Arthur (7354830) 4.10 To Me, to You (3989410)

4,35 The Mask (2256120) 5.00 Newsround (T) (8789435) 5.10 Aquila. Last in series (T) (6963743) **5.35 Neighbours** (f) (T) (100255) 6.00 News (T) and weather (694) 6.30 Regional News (946)

7.00 Holiday Jill Dando follows in the wake of the Pilgirn Fathers to Cape Cod; Caroline Quentin explores the rainforests and coral reefs of Belize; Sophle Allistone reports from the Turkish port of Marmaris; Ross Kelly visits an unusual theme park in Holland; and John Holdsworth tries a bargain break in Vienna (T) (5052)

7.30 A Question of Sport Sports quiz chaired by Sue Barker (T) (830) 8.00 EastEnders Tiffany falls out with Aunt Sal

8.30 Airport A behind-the-scenes look at Heathrow during the hectic Christmas period, following harassed staff as they by to locate a missing plane, cope with uncooperative passengers and rescue two tuny creatures who are in the wrong place at the wrong time (1) (8697) 9.00 News (T) and weather (9859)

9.30 Clear and Present Danger (1994 Harrison Ford reprises his role as former CIA analyst Jack Ryan, Ryan gets involved in the Colombian drugs trade while trying to track down terrorists responsible for murdering a prominent senator. Based on the novel by Torn Clency, also starring William Dafce. Directed by Phillip Noyce (88409304)

11.45 Bette Midler: Diva Las Vegas The shighing superstar takes centre stage at the MGM Grand, Las Vegas (766859) WALES: 11.45 FAW Invitational Cup. Highlights of League of Wales Newtown v Cardiff City and Conwy United v Bangor City (836168) 12.20am Bette Midler. Diva Las Vegas (5829618) 1.50 FiLM: Dream Lover (745927) 3.30 News (90235786)

3.35 BBC News 24 1.15asi Dream Lover (1986) Thriller, with Kristy McNichol, Ben Masters, Gayle Hunnicutt and Paul Shenar. Directed by 2.55 Weather (3103163) 3.00 BBC News 24

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode the numbers next to exch 11/2 programme letting are Wideo PlusCode* numbers, which store, you to programme your video recorder natarity with a VideoPlus+" handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+(""), Pluscode ("") and Video Programme are trademarks of German Development Ltd.

7.15am Teletubbies (r) (2037694) 7.40 Sem Teletubbles (r) (2037694) 7.40 Secret Life of Toys (r) (4192679) 7.55 Yakky Duck (r) (6813762) 8.15 Blue Peter (r) (T) (9786965) 8.40 Harry and the Hendersons (r) (6834168) 9.10 Johny Quest (r) (4708323) 9.30 Sweet Valley High (r) (9914410) 9.55 Pingu (r) (7875781) 10.00 Teletubbles (45781)

10.30 The Last Unicorn (1982) Animated fantasy featuring a host of star names (84149)

12.00 Gypsy Colt (1954) with Donna Corcoran,
Ward Bond and Patrick McGochan. A
youngster is heartbroken by her perents'
decision to sell her horse. Directed by Andrew Marton (7573014)

1.10pm Fireman Sem (33511304) 1.20 Golf: Champions Challenge (2046033) 2.10 Wildlife Showcase (64274743) 2.40 News 2.45 Call My Bluff (329033) 3.15 Close-Up on James Stewart (7124149) 3.25 News 3.30 Showjumping (50743) 4.30 The Philadelphia Story (1940, b/w)
Sophisticated romentic comedy with
Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and
James Stewart, Directed by George
Cukor (T) (42549743)

6.20 Close-Up on James Stewart (569410)



A tribute to a star (6,35pm)

James Stewart: The Last of the Good Guys Tribute to the actor who died in July. With contributions from Janet Leigh, David Lynch and From Capra Jr (1) (62007 Capra Jr (T) (630878)

7.30 University Challenge The last-ever Mastermind champion and three finalists take on reigning University Challenge champions, Magdalen College, Oxford (1) (472)

8.00 A Christmas Dickens Mr Chops the Dwarf (9014)

8.30 Food and Drink Turkey leftovers, hot buttered rum and mulled wine (T) (8149) 9.00 Brazen Hussies Corriedy drama about a resourceful landlady who teams up with a long-lost school pal and sets out to breathe new life into her ailing pub. With Julie Walters, Robert Lindsay, Crissy Rock and Jimmy Terbuck (r) (1830)

10,30 Newsnight (T) (448507) 11.15 Stella Street The fives loves and launchy of the famous stars living in leafy Surbiton

(T) (985287) Treat it Gentle: Skiney Bechet Tribute to the legendary saxophonist, featuring contributions from friends, family and

contemporaries including his protégé
Bob Wilber, Humphrey Lyttelton and
Woody Alien (403694)

12.15am Pete Kelty's Blues (1955) Musical
set in the 1920s directed by and starring.
Jack Webb, with Janet Leigh, Elia

1.50 A Great Day in Harlem (r) (1) (7751618) 2.50 Weather (3102434)

6.00am GMTV (2323168)

9.25 Treasure Seekers (2/4) (r) (1) (1826965) 9.55 News (T) and weather (7679507) 10.05 Tiny Toon Christmas (7669120)

HTV

10.35 The Story Ledy (1991) with Jessica Tandy and Stephanie Zimbalist. When a widow decides to produce her own children's story television programme, she is unprepared for its popularity Directed by Larry Elikann (1) (19304033)

12.30 News (1) and weather (5967410) 12.55 Silver Bears (1978) Cornedy adventure with Michael Caine as a financial genius
with Michael Caine as a financial genius
who is sent from Las Vegas to supervise
Mafia money at a Swiss bank. Directed by
Ivan Passer (T) (18757526)

12.20cm Regional News (9060588)

3.00 News (T) and weather (7115120) 3.05 Regional News (5961912) 3.10 Movie Magic: The Final Frontier The

world of space films (1029830) 4.05 No Greater Love (1996) Danielle Steel's period drama about a woman who loses her parents and france on the Titanic and is left to cope with the running of a newspaper business. Directed by Richard Heffron (1) (78503743)

5.40 News (T) and weather (343033) 6.00 The Making of Hercules (r) (187830) 6.25 Regional Weather (501269) 6.30 Regional News (994) 7.00 Emmerdale Kim has other plans when

Steve wants to be her white knight, but when she returns home she finds James 8.00 Brian Conley's Crazy Christmas Music and humour from the versatile comic. With guest stars Etemal (1) (4033)



Jean Marsh and Ruth Madoc (9.00pm)

Agatha Christle's The Pale Horse Colin Buchanan and Hermione Norris (T) (7120)

11.25 A Sense of Christmas Following the pupils of Edinburgh's Royal Blind School as they prepare for Christmas (T)

2.05 Planet Mirth (8554095) 2.35 Dance '97 (5111434)

4.35 Footbell Extra presented by Gabriel Clarke (1908811) 5,30 Talespin (6152637)

Javne Ashbourne star in this murdermystery about a young sculptor's quest to find the killer of a priest. Also with Jean Marsh, Ruth Madoc, Michael Byrne and 11.15 Regional News (880633)

Keaton and Ed Harris. A children's author is unprepared for the media intrusion that ensues when she becomes engaged to a presidential candidate. Directed by Michael Lindsay-Hogg (601163)

3.35 Rockmenia (1515827)

5.55 News (6155724)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 6.00cm 24 Hours (762) 6.30-7.00 Central News (994) 2.05am Funny Business (8554095)

2.35 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (5356207) 3.05 Film: Ooh! You Are Awful (1972) starring Dick Emery, Ronald Fraser and Derren Nesbitt. A comedy about a crook's efforts to discover the combination of a Swiss bank account, the number of which is tattooed on the backsides of four women. Directed by Cliff Owen (676279)

4.50 ITV Sport Classics (91025182) 4.55 Football Extra (1919927)

DESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (9060588)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (23472) MENDIAN As HTV West except:

6.00 Meridian Tonight (762) 6.30-7.00 Ambulance! (994)

* ANGLE As HTV West except: 5.39-5.40 Anglia Air Watch (821762) 6.00 Out to Lunch with Brian Turner. The

chef visits Starnford for a traditional Christmas celebration (762) 6.28 Anglia Weather (501269) 6.30-7.00 Anglia News (994)

11.14 Anglia Air Watch (255149) Sec Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (71781) 7.00 The Sabvsitters' Club (9187945) 7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (8485410) -8.00 The Big Breakfast (37762) 10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8802507)

10.01 Happy Days (3540269 10.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack (1338946) 11.05 Moesha (8441304) 11.30 The Monkees (6762) 12.00 Eerie, Indiana (19781) 12.30pm Rickl Lake (46323)

1.00 Slot Melthrin (50121762) 1.15 Tomos Y Tane (50126217) 1.30 Frances Bissell's West Country Christmas (5744830) 2.05 Film: Miracle on 34th Street (698089) 3.50 Fresh Pop (8837033) 4.00 Christmas TV Dinners (255) 4.30 United Tastes of America (439)

5.00 5 Pump: Uned 5 (5864656) 5.40 Crefyddau'r Byd Wedi Eu Hanimeiddio: Bywyd Gwrw Nanak (341675) 6.00 Newyddion (550762)

6.10 Heno (927656) 7.00 Brodyr Bach Dolig (579615) 7.45 Gwahoddiad (924526) 8.45 Newyddion (575946) 9.00 Y Palmant Aur (2439) 10.00 Brookside (747120) 10.35 Friends at Christmas (912507) 11.35 Frasier (266255) 12.05am Don't Forget Your Toothbrush (6471279)

1.05 The Strike (1842453)

CHANNEL 4

6,00am Sesame Street (71781) 7.00 The Babysitlers' Club (r) (87255) 7.30 Two Stupid Dogs (r) (66762) 8.00 The Big Breakfast (37762)

10.00 ZIg and Zag's Big Morning (9802507) 10.01 Happy Days (r) (3540269) 10.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack (r) (1338946) 11.05 Moeshs (r) (8441304) 11.30 The Monkees (6782) 12.00 Eerie, Indiana (r) (T) (19781)

12.30pm Light Lunch (r) (T) (49149) 1.30 Frances Bissell's West Country Christmas Turkey with all the trimmings (2/3) (1) (5744830)

2.05 Miracle on 34th Street (1947, b/w) with Edmund Gwenn and Maureen O'Hara.
The original classic Christmas lantas Directed by George Seaton (T) (698089) 3.50 The Pink Panther (2703323)

4.05 The Robe (1953) with Richard Burton as a Roman centurion put in charge of the execution of Christ. Directed by Henry Koster (T) (72713410) 6.30 The Best of Collectors' Lot Highlights

from the series (T) (656)

7.00 Channel 4 News (i) (8762) 7.30 Ved Mehta on Blindness The author on how he became blind as a result of meningitis at the age of three, and how he still manages to include visual descriptions in his books (f) (T) (168)

8.00 Nigel Stater's Real Christmas Dinner

The emphasis is on ease and speed of preparation (T) (7410) 6.30 Brookside Will Lindsey be able to get Barry out of her system? (1) (3217) 9.00 Friends at Christmes: The One With Phoebe's Dad Phoebe learns the truth

about her father (r) (T) (5897)



Designer Glanni Versace (9.30pm)

Secret Lives: Versace How did a shy, gay young man from a small town in southern traily rise to worldwide fame? (T) (49588) 10.30 Friends at Christmas: The One Where Rachel Quits Rachel wonders if she'll

ever get another job after quitting Central Perk (r) (T) (727526) 11.05 Jo Brand Burns Rubber She goes rallying (T) (974507)

12.05am Love at First Bite (1979) with George Hamilton as a vampire evicted from his Transvivanian home who travels to New York, With Susan Saint James. Directed by Stan Dragoti (346724) 1,50 Demon (r) (7396076)

2.05 Dinner at Eight (1933, b/w) with Jean Harlow, Wallace Berry and John Barrymore. New York society comedy classic directed by George Cultor (271328)4.05 Reckless (1935, b/w) with Jean Harlow

as a Broadway entertainer who is wooed by a wealthy socialite. Directed by Victor

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Charmel 5 is now broadcasting on trensponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.03 and 7.03 MHz. 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (4021255) 7.30 WideWorld: Fragile Planet The tropical forests of Central America and their

plants and animals (8/10) (8255994) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1504061) 8.30 Adventures of the Bush Patrol (r) (2954502) 9.00 Espresso (7865507) 10.00 Natural Natives: Hopping Mad (r) (1) (4220946) 10.30 Period Rooms (r)

11.00 Leeza (3149168) 11.50 Double Espresso (90705439) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (4859138) 12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (1321304)

1.00 5 News Update (88663694) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (4914526) 2.00 5's Company (3119304)

3.30 The Christmas Box (1995) with Richard Thomas, Maureen O'Hara and Annette O'Toole. An overworked father learns the true meaning of Christmas. Directed by Marcus Cole (9301120)

5.20 5's Company Late Extra (56668101) 5.30 Whittle Outz (4587168) 6.00 100 Per Cent Quiz (4577781) 6.30 Family Affairs Jack sells some of his

possessions in order to buy Maria a Christmas present (T) (4568033) 7.00 Exclusive (5936946) 7.30 Wildlife SOS Special Volunteers at the Wildlife Aid Sanctuary in Surrey come to the aid of wild animals in distress (T)



8.00 Vanessa's Day With Paul and Stacey Young, the singer and his model wife (1)

8,30 5 News (5924101)

9.00 With Harmful Intent (1993) with Joan Van Ark, Christopher North and Rick Springfield. The parents of a young boy turn to a tormer policeman for help when they suspect that their son has been targeted by a stalker. Directed by Richard Friedman (32352052)

10.50 The Jack Docherty Show A compilation of Not the Jack Docherty Show (1482694) 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H (9490033) 12.30am Live and Dangerous Including 1.50 Motorsport and action from the Latin

American Leagues at 3.45(64054569) 4.35 The Streets of San Francisco Starring Michael Douglas and Karl Malden (1) (5656569)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7813144)

Saturday's Vision

8.00am Morring Groy (289145) 9.00 Hotel 25014 10.00 Another World (17410) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (13566) 12.00 Oprah Winter 187894) 1.00pm Genatio (53014) 2.00 Safe Jessy Raphaealdo (53014) 2.00 Safe Jessy Raphaealdo (53014) 3.00 Jerry Johns (88878) 4.00 Oprah Wintery (76385) 5.00 Safe Treix Coyage (2507) 6.00 Draws Team (2588) 6.30 Married with Children (6439) 7.00 The Simpsons (3239) 7.30 Ref (75385) 8.00 Rescue Paramedics (5689) 8.30 Coppass (1451) 8.00 Police Safe) 5.84471 10.00 The Extraordinary (18588) 7.100 Safe Treix Voyager (2549) 12.00 Little Show with Devid Letterman (8849) 1.00 Large Play (8004299)

SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) The First Wises' Club (1996) 6.00mm Bullo (1995) (49830) 8.00 Things

6:30am The Petethes (1902) (57569033) 8.00 The Kurste Vod Pert II (1906) (6223) 50:00 Militar Dog (1903) (77217-12.09 A Chile Militar Carol (1904) (72959) 2.00ps: The Dishilloger's Daughters (1907) (23(10) 4.00 The Almost Perfect Back Robbery (1956) (50051) 5.30 The

Kernie Kid Part II (1986) (22168) 8.00 Legends of the Fall (1985) (41795052) 10.45 Money Train (1986) (41916223) 12.25cm Black Scoplor: Ground Zero (1986) (454502) 2.10 Sins of Silence (1986) (879144) 3.45 Yampires in Yenice (1986) (70899) 5.20 Joe at the Kingdom of the Bees (1972) (8908057) SKY MOYIES GOLD

A.Dopta Senta Claus: The Movie (1984) (9616323) 6.00 Butteries Not included (1987) (4769830) 8.00 Great Balls of Piu (1999) (476975) 10.00 Beverly Hills Cap (1999) (960239) 11.45 Brestout (1975) (8622183) 1.25 mm Sox and the Single Glai (1984) (4829144) 3.20 I Wales Up Screening (1941) (61195076) 4.40 Close 9.00pm North by Northwest (1959) (54338129) 11.30 The Flesh and the Devid (1927) (63548675) 1.30 mm AP at Sec (1965) (4325989) 3.15 The Secret-Partner (1961) (29891780) 8.09 Class

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (54965) 7.30 Wresting (9894) 8.30 Sports Centre (67965) 9.00 V-Max (92217) 9.30 Aerobics (27257) 10.00 Sportish Primera Liga (61033) 12.40 Aerobics (61781) 12.30pm Football Spocial (63781) 2.30 Sportish Primera Liga (76235) 4.30 V-Max (2078) 5.00 Wresting (2851) 6.00 Sportis Centre (3743) 6.30 Tertan Deta (7923) 7.00 The Footballers' Football Show (40101) 8.00 Sportis Primera Liga (60865) 10.00 Sports Centre (62410) 10.30 Tertan Edge (46630) 11.00 The Footballers' Football Show (20365) 12.00 Sports Centre (87144) 12.30am Sportish Primera Liga (60724) 2.30 The Footballers' Football Show (27328) 3.30 Sports Centre (75144) 4.00 Clear

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00mm Aerobics (3464410) 7.30 Sports Centre (3450217) 8.60 Footbell League Review (3266472) 8.30 Fish TV (8746746) Riview (\$288472, 8.30 Fish 1V (878676) 9.30. Football Lasque Rendw (7299120) 10.00 World Motor Sport (207385) 1.00pm NF1, les Hockey (8174217) 3.00 Golf Stillis Chollenga (4590255) 8.00 Pro Beach Sociat (2878878) 6.00 Sports Unlimited (7288255) 7.00 Sports Centric (2877507) 7.30 Les Hockey Bracknell Beach v Marchester Storm—Live (6291051) 10.00 Sports Unlimited (2340014) 11.00 NFIL los Hockey (4588526) 1.00mm Sports

Centre (9446637) 1.30 Pro Beech Soccer (1051076) 2.30 Rugby Union: European Cup (1050347) 4.30 Close SKY SPORTS 3

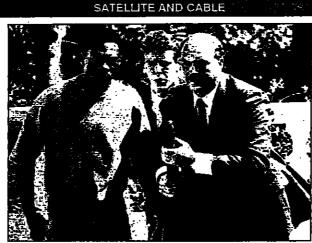
12.00pm Whesting (81113168) 1.00 Fish TV (81198588) 2.00 Super Leegus Classics (3223688) 3.20 World Motor Sport (75687217) 8.30 Survival of the Pitrest (28485286) 7.00 Fish TV (58430472) Ex-Rugby Union: European Cup (58450286) 10.00 Superbouts (58439748) 11.00 Olym-EUROSPORT

7.30em Speecherottd (19746) 9.00 Cycling (85656) 10.00 Live Alpine Sking (57052) 11.00 Snowboarding (4458) 12.00 Live Alpine Sking (83169) 12.30em Triethlon (21120) 2.00 Biashion (83052) 4.00 Football (83052) 3.30 Officed (87507) 6.30 Freerick (2491) 7.00 Football (89897) 9.00 Bosing (84781) 10.00 Sumo (74168) 11.00 Equestrianism (85781) 12.00 Football (82340) 12.30em Close UK GOLD

7.00mm Bulseye (4191491) 7.35 Neighbours (4994559) 8.00 Crossroads (2059965) 8.26 EsstEnders (5689530) 9.00 The Ball (6905589) 9.30 Howerds Way (5108630) 10.00 Bless This House (1276491) 10.30 The Sulfavans (6934472) 11.00 Econ (6830678) 12.00 Crossroads (46965323) 12.25pm Neighbours (1276-91) 10.30 The Sulkrums (8994472) 11.00 Boon (8530879) 12.00 Cressroads (49985323) 12.25pm Neighbours (49985323) 12.25pm Neighbours (49986323) 12.25pm Neighbours (49986410) 12.55 EastEnders (2919120) 1.30 In Sichness and In Health (4011459) 2.10 2point4 Children (8374781) 2.50 Never the Twell (7125528) 3.20 A Word with All (3281588) 3.30 The Bis (6977236) 4.00 Moreocambe and Wise (38409033) 5.06 EastEnders (1953323) 5.40 Bob's Full House (5109656) 9.20 In Sichness and in Health (8230043) 7.00 Dad's Army (1170081) 7.45 Shelley (8757568) 8.20 2point4 Children (6747679) 9.00 The Bis (1690385) 9.30 Spender (548762) 10.10 The Young Ones (1010145) 10.40 Franch Carrot (4002101) 12.00 Rock Gose to College (8755429) 12.40mm Filalis A Place for Amile (1983) (7432091) 1.00 Spitting 14703181 A Place (1983) (7432091) 1.00 Spitting 14703181 A Place (1983) (7432091) 1.00 Spitting 14703181 Amile (1983) (7432091) 1.00 Spitting 14703181 Amil

GRANADA PLUS

6.00mst The Box (8808946) 7.00 Cordna-tion St (6215101) 7.30 Families (8234236) 8.00 Blind Date (6658256) 9.00 Within



These Walls (4790526) 18,00 Donahue (8223120) -11.00 Hart to Hart (8210656) 12.00 Coronalion St (8683676) 12.30pm Families (2128033) 1.00 On the Buses (8214472) 1.30 Please Str (2125304) 2.00 The Good Guys (7789694) 3.00 Donahus (7983236) 4.00 Mission; Impossible (7942743) 5.00 Hawaii Flevo (3727148) 6.00 Families (7083410) 6.30 Couracion St (7074762) 7.00 Bind Date (5830453) 8.00

Hert to Hert (9335061) 9.00 Coronation St (7971255) 9.30 Hele and Pece (2146897) 10.00 Hewell Five-O (8080894) 11.00 Close CARLTON SELECT (cable) 5.00pm Gridlock (98035453) 5.20 Hey Ded 5.00pm Gridioxi (59135453) 5.30 Hey Dat II (28439575) 8.00 Blockousters (28439588) 6.30 A Country Practice (28450168) 7.00 Gat Back (74635697) 7.30 Our House (28449052) 8.00 Desmond's (68330205) 8.00 The Big One (63180502) 2.00 Shine On, Harvey Moon (36441589) 10.00 Bread and Roses (56444675) 11.00 St Elsewhere (84160702) 12.00 Let the Blood Run Free (850/339) 12.30 am Tales of the Unex-persor 1848(2144) 10 Close

pected (54812144) 1,00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL 8,00mm Seseme Street 7.00 The Little



are Delly and His Friends 6.30 Billy the 8.00em Delly and His Friends 6.30 Billy the Cet 7,00 Procents, 7.30 Power Rangers 2x0 8.00 Big Bad Beetleborgs 8.30 Mastrod Rider 9.00 And Ventura 9.30 Casper 10.00 The Tick: 19.30 Incredible Huk 11.00 Bureau of Alien Delactors 11.30 Phantom 2040 12.00 Sweet Valley High 12.30 pm Life with Louis 1.00 The Mouse and the Monster 1.30 C Bear and Jernel 2.90 Edd Stategainza 2.30 Power Rangers Zeo 3.00 Big Bad Beetleborgs 3.30 Mastred Rider 4.00 Ace Ventura 4.30 Casper 5.00 The Tick 8.30 X. Men 8.00 Spicierman 6.30 Sweet Valley High 7.00 Close

3.30 Reases 3.45 Gargoyles 4.15 Recess: 4.30 Rand Sperking New Oug 5.00 Smart Guy 5.30 Student Bodies 6.00 Boy Meets World 6.30 Home Improvement 7.00 Honey, I Shrunk the Kids 8.00 FILM: Three Meets to be the 18 Threes are

6.00um Happily Ever After 6.30 Bobby's-World 7.00 Spirou 7.30 Dennis the Menace 8.00 Betman 8.30 Betman 9.00 Earthworm Jim 9.30 Romastd the Reindeer 9.45 Romastd the Reindeer 10.00 Ocser's Chestra 10.30 Flash Gordon 11.00 Iznogoud 11.30 Gigartor 12.00 Spirou 12.30pcm Sonic 1.00 Betmen 1.30 A7s Time Travellers 2.00 Emproud 2.30 Flash Gordon 3.00 Sonic 3.30 Earthworm Jim 4.00 Dennis the Menace 4.30 Batman CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from 5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

6.00em Doug 6.30 Doug 7.00 Doug 7.30 Doug 8.00 Doug 8.30 Doug 9.00 Doug 9.30 Doug 10.00 Doug 10.30 Doug 11.00 Doug 11.30 Doug 12.30 Doug 12.30pm Doug 1.00 The Secret World of Alex Mack 1.30 Clerkse Explains it Al 2.00 The Adventures of Pete and Pete 2.30 Kabinat 3.00 Belly Kloper's PDV 3.30 Capital 3.00 Bally Kipper's POV 3.30 Capitol Critiers 4.00 Jumeni 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Sister Sister 5.30 Kenan and Kel 6.00 Sebrina the Teenage Witch 6.30 Moesha

12.00pm Swan's Crossing 12.30 Ready or Not 1.00 Madison 1.30 Callionia Dreams TID JAME THE TOTAL CHARGOTTA DISEASE
2.00 Seved by the Bell 2.30 Swen's
Crossing 3.009-2-5-3.30 Ready or Not 4.00
Saved by the Bell 4.30 USA High 5.00
Hangtime 5.30 California Dreams 6.00 TX
Six 6.30 Medison 7.00 Hangtime 7.30 USA
High 8.00 Clone. High 8.00 Close CHALLENGE TV 5.00mm Cross Wits 5.30 Move on Up 6.00 Family Fortunes 8.30 Catchphrase 7.15 The \$54,000 Question 8.00 Splt Second 8.30 Karpole Challenge 9.15 Winner Takes All 10.00 Tressure Hunt 11.15 Karpole

TROUBLE

Challenge 12.00 Sey the Word 12.30am Hart to Hart 1.30 Moonighting 2.30 FILM: The Little Match Cirl 4.30 Alens Next BRAVO \$.00pm The A-Team (4647743) 9.00 Tour of Duty (4867507) 10.00 Red Since Dienes (6811149) 10.30 Italian Stripping House-wives (1756043) 10.45 Fil.M: Maximum

(5211231) 2.15 Italian Stripping House-wises (60787095) 2.30 Fluit Dark Breed (2503618) 4.30 Family Dog (6182219) 5.00 Starsky and Hutch (4264521) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (9052) 7.30 Rosenne (1149) 8.00 Elen (5472) 8.30 Cyolf (4507) 9.00 Cheers (17385) 9.36 Taxl (83491) 10.00 Frasier (60052) 10.30 The Kerny Evereti Show (46472) 11.00 Festival of Fun (12830) 11.30 Elen (81435) 12.00 Rosenne (85786) 12.30em Kylastand (79637) 1.00 Scap (35453) 1.30 Tax (41502) 2.00 Festival of Fun (6517) 2.30 Grace Under Fire (82434) 3.00 Frasier (22989) 3.30 The Kenny Evereti Show (73786) 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Sightings (3779762) 9.00 Dark Skies (3799626) 10.00 Science of Star Trek 8.00pm Sightings (3779762) 9.000 Dark Sides (3799529) 14.00 Scenne of Sar Trek (3789385) 11.00 Findey the 1.3th (6081507) 12.00 Sightings (4237796) 1.00ean Twillight Zone (9369569) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpect-ed (3171279) 2.00 Dark Shadows (7286250) 2.30 New Histhoook (7272057) 3.00 Finday the 13th (9071989)

orkshop 10.30 Julia Child 11.00 Cra Workshop 10.20 Use Child 11.00 Chainwes
11.30 Graham Kerr 12.00 New Yankee
Workshop 12.30 per Christmes Consuming
Passions 1.00 Craftwise 1.30 Yan Can
Cook 2.00 Gardeners' Diary 2.30 The
Painted House 3.00 New Yankee Workshop
3.30 New Yankee Workshop 4.00 Close

DISCOVERY 4,00pm Bush Tucker Man (3654385) 4,30 Rightline (3683897) 5.00 (365435) 4.76 Rightline (3683897) 5.00 Ancars: Warriors (8801255) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (3674149) 6.00 The Harem of an Ethopian Bebook (9125507) 7.00 Mystenous Woold (8881491) 7.20 Disester (3684526) 8.00 | Discover Magazine (4650217) 9.00 Roging | Planet (4669781) 10.00 Koko's Story (4673188) 11.00 Tail Ship (8819385) 12.00 Lotus Else — Project M1:11 (376873) 1.00mm Discoter (7732958) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (9642415) 2.00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

on the Roof (8532781) 10.00 Accordio Second Wind (8542188) 11.00 Search the Bismark (5866588) 12.00 Stalin's A Master Plen (2494366) 1.00em Close

TRAVEL (cable) 12.00pm Best of Travel Live 1.00 Ridge Riders 1.30 Cities of the World 2.00 Travel Trails 2.30 Flavours of France 3.00 Revively Advertures Across Europe 2.30 Cerbbean Dary 4.00 Snow Salari 4.30 Beyond Borders 5.00 Around Britain 5.20 Cn Tour 8.00 Aspects of Life 8.30 Innocent Abroad 7.00 Travel Live 8.00 Real World 8.30 Snow Salan 9.00 Destinations 10.00 Greg's World 10.30 On the Horizon 11.00 Amazing Races 11.30 Flights Over Soain Races 11.30 Flights Over Scain

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

CARLTON FOOD (cable) 12.00pm Food Network Deily 12.30 Alive and Coolong 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Twelve Chels of Christmas 2.00 Chef for a Day 2.30 Food Network Day 3.00 The Green Gournet 3.30 Graham Ker's Kind-en 4.00 For Better, for Worse 4.30 West Country Christmas 5.00 Closo

LIVING 6.00cm Tiny Living 9.00 Linsley's Christmas Countdown 9.30 Gordon Elliott 10.10 Jany Springer 11.00 Young and the Restless 11.95 Brooksde 12.25pm Janny's 1.00 Cheep Chic 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook 2.05 Hart to Hart 3.00 Could it Se a Miracle? 4.10 Hart 10 Hart 3.00 Could it se a withcase 4.19 Jony Springer 8.00 Rolonds 5.50 Cheap Chic 6.20 Ready, Steady, Cook 7.00 Resour 911 7.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miscoles 8.00 Jeny Springer 9.00 FILME Blind Witness 11.00 Sex Zone

6.30mm Peatuku Paatu 7.00 Jaagran 7.30 Busness 8.00 Busness News 8.15 Music 8.30 Aahea 9.00 Revetiri 9.30 Health Show 10.00 Parwetran 11.00 Stahi Dawei 11.30 Beat Ben Jaye 12.00 Salaab 12.30pm Derser 1.00 FILM 4.00 Outz Contest 4.30

On a Het Trick 5.00 Armer Katteyen 5.30 Nays A-Z 8.00 Hum Peanch 6.30 Pop Busiers 7.00 Aap Ki Farmash 7.30 Chalo Crietta 8.00 News 8.30 Danas 9.00 Hum Aap Ke Hain Woh 8.30 Idee Pe like 10.06 Tara 11.00 Se Re Ga Ma 12.00 Close

ZEE TV



TUESDAY DECEMBER 23 1997

Tottenham recruit former favourite in attempt to ease worries about relegation

Klinsmann reclaims his Spurs

By MATT DICKINSON

YOU cannot put a price on confidence or star quality, but at £175,000, the superficial amount it took to lure Jürgen Klinsmann so spectacularly back to the FA Carling Premiership vesterday. Tottenham Hotspur appear to have secured the bargain of a

A week ago, the only reason for 100 supporters to have gathered at the gates of White Hart Lane was to start a revolt. Yesterday lunchtime they sang, danced and cavorted as the German forward swept in and out, dallying for just a couple of hours to sign a six-month contract. Third from bortom? Who cares? Jürgen's back.

It is safe to assume the celebrations were equally ec-static at the club's Chigwell training ground, where the players know first-hand what Klinsmann is capable of, from



the 1994-95 season when he achieved the ultimate in English football of winning respect even from opposing

supporters. With the former Sampdoria forward hoping to make a tumultuous debut against Arsenal at White Hart Lane on Sunday, possibly as cap-tain, the strength of that affection will quickly be put to its ultimate test.

If he does play, it will be in the No 33 shirt (shared by his favourite basketball player. Scottle Pippen of the Chicago Bulls) and it was a prominent figure vesterday, being both Klinsmann's age and approximately the number of pounds - multiplied by a thousand, of course - that he will earn each week as the club's high-

est-paid player. It is a salary, boosted by neft; bonuses for helping to keep Spurs in the Premiership, that puts him in the top bracket of the Premiership's illustrious names, higher than anyone at Manchester United. where Roy Keane sits on top of the pile, but less than Alan

Shearer, the England captain. No one at Spurs will be-grudge it, though, if he repeats the achievements of his previous visit when he scored 29 goals, missed just one Premiership game, and won the Footballer of the Year award for services to charm as well as football following his arrival from AS Monaco.

That also was a time when the club were undergoing managerial upheaval, with Gerry Francis succeeding Osvaldo Ardiles in mid-campaign. Francis passed on a Gross a month ago, and while the Swiss coach stressed that it is goals he principally wants from Klinsmann, he will know that the injection of enthusiasm will be equally vital, just as it proved three years ago, in lifting Spury from relegation

There are many, though, who will believe Tottenham's money might have been better-spent on a world-class defender or central midfield player, for all of the German's

Klinsmann, radiant as ever although sparing the jokes this time around, believes he can meet the daunting expectations. "I am captain of the German national team so I don't have any problem with pressure in football," he said.

"I have kept in very close touch with what is going on at Spurs ever since I left, because this is where I felt most at home. If I ever considered coming back to England, it could never be to any other club than Spurs because of the fans and the whole environment. The team is good enough to save itself, but I can give them a hand."

Klinsmann, who won the Uefa Cup and Bundesliga in his two years at Bayern Munich following his move from Spurs, has been restricted at Sampdoria to just eight Serie A games and two goals by an ankle injury. A row with Vujadin Boskov, the club's

27 Ritually unclean (5)

28 Courage, character (6)

Weapon store (7)

Postpone (5)

17 MoBify (7)

18 Forcible (7)

As apprentice sailor (6.3.4)

Rock band follower (7)

Squash: infatuation (5)

13 To, at the 19 (naut.) (3)

15 Parting word: a run (3)

21 Very little bread, comfort (5)

19 Strict, relentless (5)



Klinsmann shows his delight at being back in the White Hart Lane fold and hopes to play just as important a role in his second spell

be carried off on a stretcher to

have his mouth stitched up.

That was his welcome to

English football, but he came

back to play against Everton

the following Wednesday and

Serbian coach, proved the final straw and allowed Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, to pull off his stunning

perhaps the biggest was hearing Sugar own up to naivety in the way he publicly fell out with Klinsmann in the summer of 1995, when the German exercised an opt-out clause in his two-year contract after 12 months and moved to Bavern for £200,000. Presented with one of the striker's shirts then, Sugar said he would not even

wash his car with it. "That may have been the situation two or three years ago," he said yesterday, "but it is all water under the bridge. I was naive and that is my problem. Do you have to keep

cating humble pie?" Sugar preferred to dwell on the glorious memories ha

hopes Klinsmann can revive, although at 33 it may be asking a lot to expect a similar goalscoring return, even though he is still regarded

highly enough to spearhead the German national team. "I remember his first game at Sheffield Wednesday when he started to light up the club. in fact the whole Premier-ship. Sugar said. "He got smashed in the face and had to

goal, it was that spirit we all admired very much.

"People go on about coming over here for the money but I know it is because he enjoys it. He told me how much he likes

N KLINSMANN FACT FILE 1964: Born July 30

CLUB RECORD 1981: Senior debut for Stuttmart

1984: Transfers to VfB Stuttgart 1989: Joins Internazionale in Itali 1992: Joine AS Monaco 1994: Sons for Tottenham for £2ca

INTERNATIONAL RECORD 1987: Makes debut for West Germ n 1-1 draw against Brazil 1990: Wins World Cup winner's me

Argentina 1-0
1992: Is not first-choice at start of European Championship finals in Sweden but receives repney being able to walk around Hampstead without being hassled, something he could never do in Milan."

Amid the scrum surrounding Klinsmann, who claimed he had no coaching ambitions for at least a few years, it was almost as an afterthought that Sugar confirmed that David Pleat will be joining as director of football on January 15.

Pleat will be in charge of the youth and scouting set-up and also involved in negotiations over players' contracts, although Sugar was anxious to stress yesterday that Gross will have the final say on who is bought and sold. If everything goes to plan, presum-ably all three will be united in trying to persuade Klinsmann to extend his contract come the

Pleat admitted that he was flattered to have the chance to

'It is all water under the bridge'

By Russell Kempson

Sugar on Klinsmann's We've told him what we have got to do and we are delighted he has chosen our club to try to win something next year and the year after."

Klinsmann on his arrival. August 1994 Money is only a motivation up to a certain point, I came to Fottenham because I want to win something. Alan said he wanted to win the

championship ... that is why I came." Sugar on Klinsmann's departure, May 1995 "I believed we had got him for at least another year. When I signed him, I looked in the whites of his eyes and genuinely felt we had an agreement for two

August 1995: "There are two Jürgen Klinsmanns. The one who flashes those gleaming teeth for the cameras, that lovely smile that butter wouldn't melt in the mouth. But in private. there's a hard-nosed businessman who knows what he wants."

Klinsmann on Sugar. August 95

He only ever talks about money, he never talks about the game. I would say there is a big question mark over whether his heart is in the club and in football. What does he like more, the business or the football?"

Sugar on Klinsmann's

return to White Hart Lane so

soon after being dismissed by

shall be focused," he said. "I

know what the challenge em-

braces. It's quite a heavy one,

I hope it goes very well."
Pleat, Spurs manager from

1986-87, said his role was to

deal with "the longer-term

strategy rather than the short

term." He welcomed the re-

turn of Klinsmann. "I'm

delighted because obviously

when he was here before he

galvanised the team and

raised the expectancy level of

the supporters."

Sheffield Wednesday.

plenty of areas with ment have to be looked at and

'I think we had better push everything in the past behind us. It is all water under the bridge now. It was all down to my naivety at the time . . . I was wrong but eating humble pie."

Klinsmann on his return "Alan asked me if there was a chance of helping them out. I had to think about it for a couple of days - it was really quick - and then I said: 'OK, let's do it.' I had a fantastic year the season I was here and was very, very comfortable because people made it very comfortable for me."

IMES TWO CROSSWORD

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Conquering hero's return brings good cheer to White Hart Lane

Brian Glanville sees the Germany striker

sign on for another short but welcome stay

t White Hart Lane yes-A twinte man ballo sugar, terday, Alan Sugar, Tottenham Hetspur's combative chairman, was no longer speaking scornfully about "Carlos Kickaballs". He said that the newly-returned Jürgen Klinsmann, who sat umlably beside him, and he, were friends againt indeed. had been friends for at least the past couple of years. With truching, if unexpected, humility. Šugar admined that he "may have been a bit naive in those days, in respect to football contracts, but that was my

problem, not any hody else's". Sugar, naive? It seemed the equivalent of John D Rocke-5 With speed, strength (once) feller professing socialism, but this is Christmas-time and 6 Joyce "dream" novel (9.4) such endearing admissions

must surely be applauded. When Klinsmann ich Spurs, after one superb season. Sugar was ourraged. The implication was that Klinsmann had no right to have done what he did. In the event, a clause in his contract permitted him to do it without let or hindrance

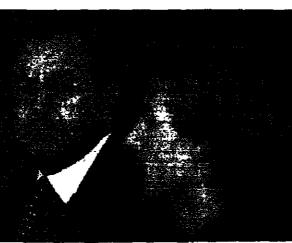
Suddenly, here he is again. his return to Italy, with Sampdoria, having lasted only a few months. Why did he want to leave them? He made no bones about it. Vujadin Boskov, the elderly Yugoslav manager, had promised him that he would be one of three strikers in their recent match against Internazionale.

The previous evening, Boskov went on television to announce that he would start with only two strikers and that Klinsmann would come on at half-time. This was, for me. a very negative situation." Klinsmann said. "I went up to him and told him it was not the way things should be

working between us." Enrico Mantovani, the Sampdonia president, was sympathetic. Klinsmann was allowed to join Spurs again for a mere £175,000. His reception was that of a returning hero: scores of young fans milling batteries of cameras in the Bill Vicholson suite: jungles of elevision impedimenta.

If Klinsmann's previous club. Bayern Munich. had been as accommodating as the Italians, Gerry Francis, the former Spurs manager, might still be in charge. Francis said yesterday that he had spoken to Klinsmann several times. and tried to re-sign him last season, but the German club vetoed the idea.

Christian Gross, Francis's successor, seems to have played a crucial part in the eventual signing. He even talked to Klinsmann before he accepted the job at Tottenham. It is believed that Klinsmann may have left Tottenham initially not only because he wanted to win honours, but also because he suspected that the Spurs team were going into freefall. The Swiss coach appears to have succeeded in reassuring him where Francis had failed.



Sugar, left, had to eat humble pie on Klinsmann's return

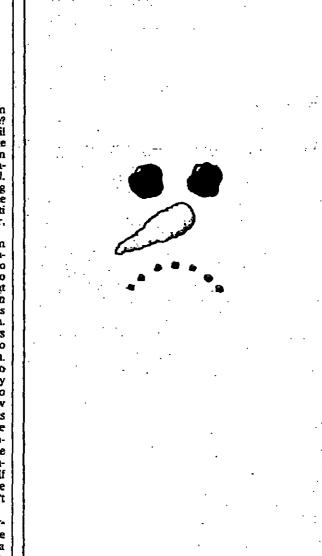
How long will Klinsmann stay at Tottenham this time? His contract lasts only until the end of the season, when he expects to captain Germany in the World Cup. He will probably make up his mind, he said. in the spring. I'm not getting young, either. We will see what happens," he said. Berti Vogts, the Germany manager,

is happy with his choice. Why, then, did Klinsmann leave Spurs for Bayern Munich as he did? "I went home to Germany because I wanted to play for titles," he said. "I went back to Germany and I won the titles. I had some problems with the club, with the coach. My problem was I always compared it, feeling-wise, to what happened at Tottenham.

"If I ever came back to England, I couldn't possibly have considered going back to any other club, because of how the fans treated me here, it was impossible, even if it was one of the big teams in the country." He was optimistic, he said, about Tottenham's immediate future, especially if further injuries could be avoided: "The team doesn't deserve to be down there."

Nor was Klinsmann worried that so much would be expected of him. "I don't see a dnager. I'm used to the pressure. I'm used to the expectation." he said. "I don't compare myself to the one year I had with Spurs. I just go from game to game."

Sugar, Spurs and Klinsmann. Who says there is no sentiment in football? God bless us all, says Tiny Tim.



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